

01 August 2022

Our Ref: RFI 45011

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to Agency Spend which you requested on 13 June 2022. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request. Thank you for your understanding and forbearance of this matter.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Finance & Estates Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

If you are unhappy as to how this request has been handled, you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. You should write to the Information Governance Department, Lough House, Ards Community Hospital (informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, within 20 working days of receipt.

If, after receiving a response, you remain unhappy, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office –Northern Ireland, 3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place, Belfast, BT7 2JB. It is important to note that if you refer any matter to the Information Commissioner, you will need to show evidence of having gone through the Trust's internal review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Degans
Information Governance Assistant

Q1. Please disclose the information as required to complete the table below. Note that "Agency Spend" is defined as the total cost to the Trust, including all invoice components i.e., worker pay, agency commission fee, PAYE taxes, WTR, NI, VAT etc. as well as any associated expenses included within recruit agency invoices.

A1. Please see Table 1

Table 1

	Financial Year 2019-20			Financial Year 2020-21			Financial Year 2021-22		
	Agency Spend	On-Contract	Off-Contract	Agency Spend	On-Contract	Off-Contract	Agency Spend	On-Contract	Off-Contract
Medical Locums	9,620,511	8,079,731	1,540,780	14,818,158	12,745,195	2,072,964	15,156,406	12,841,217	2,315,188
Nursing & Midwifery	5,447,352	2,729,678	2,717,674	9,559,175	5,231,159	4,328,016	11,188,695	7,181,354	4,007,341
AHP / HSS	1,765,155	1,228,490	536,665	2,088,254	1,740,002	348,252	2,009,091	1,579,363	429,728
Non-Medical Non-Clinical	4,540,209	4,460,516	79,693	5,432,785	5,360,508	72,277	7,134,586	6,985,765	148,821
Social Workers	3,705,805	2,937,372	768,433	4,226,095	3,014,181	1,211,914	3,900,641	2,591,110	1,309,531

Spend above refers in £'s Sterling

Q2. Please disclose the information as required to complete the table below relating to the cost of agency staff. Note that "Charge Rate" is defined as the total cost to the Trust, including all invoice components i.e., worker pay, agency commission fee, PAYE taxes, WTR, NI, VAT etc.

A2. The Trust does not record information regarding lowest, highest and lowest rates paid to agency staff. As such, the Trust is unable to provide a response.

Q3. Please disclose the information as required to complete the snapshot in the table below relating to Agency Band 5 RGNs only. As above, the rate refers to the total cost per hour charged.

A3: The Trust does not record information regarding hours worked based on chargeable rates. As such, the Trust is unable to provide a response.