

21 January 2022

Our Ref: RFI 42294

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in relation to AHP Agency Usage**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to above which you requested on 14 December 2021. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request, due to the impact of Winter Pressures that the Trust is currently facing. 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

Rebecca Manning
Information Governance Assistant

Q1. (a) Who is the head of procurement responsible for approving AHP agency usage?

A1. (a) The Trusts head of procurement for AHP is Aveen McCraith.

Q1. (b) Secondly, who is the temporary / flexible staffing lead responsible for the management of this service?

A1. (b) The Trusts staffing lead responsible for this Service is Aveen McCraith.

Q2. Please can you provide the contact number and email address in relation to both question 1 (a) & (b)

A2. The contact details are:

Email - Aveen.Mccraith@setrust.hscni.net

Tel – 028 9151 2166

Q3. Have you used Off-framework Allied Health agency staff between January 2021- December 2021?

A3. Yes, the Trust has used Off-framework Allied Health Staff (AHP) between January 2021 – December 2021.

Q4. How much was your Off-Framework agency spend for each of the following staff groups between January 2021 – December 2021: (a) Physiotherapy (b) Occupational Therapy (c) Pharmacy (d) Radiography

A4. Physiotherapy - £43,080
Occupational Therapy – Nil
Pharmacy – Nil
Radiography – Nil

Please note this information is prepared on a quarterly basis. The quoted figures above do not include Quarter 3 for 2021/2022 as Quarter 3 figures and not yet finalised.

Q5. Following the same breakdown of staff groups in Question 4, how many Off-framework posts have been unfilled between January 2021 – December 2021?

A5. There have been no Off-framework posts unfilled in these staffing groups during the dates specified.