

Information Governance

01 November 2023

Our Ref: RFI 54060

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Agency Nursing Spend**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to the above which you requested on 10 October 2023.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Finance and Estates Directorate and the People and Organisational Development 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

Robyn Watterson
Information Governance Officer

Q1. Please confirm how many shifts were sent out for agencies to fill (per month) for Band 5 nurses between Jan 23-Sept 23 by discipline, i.e. General, A&E, ITU, Paediatrics.

A1. Please see Table 1 below:

Table 1

	Adult Services & Mental Health	Hospital Services General	Emergency Department	Prisons
January 23	484	1137	456	305
February 23	431	1208	396	306
March 23	582	1206	447	422
April 23	569	1059	310	404
May 23	494	1065	359	372
June 23	527	1129	346	304
July 23	587	1335	276	336
August 23	613	1494	309	280
September 23	668	1869	328	264

Q2. Please confirm how many of these shifts were filled by agencies per month for the same timespan as detailed in Q1. (Please can this be broken down per agency)

A2. Please see Table 2 below:

Table 2

2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept
Balmoral	406	371	437	416	438	189	30	14	Nil
Direct Medics	29	52	88	127	191	307	388	390	467
MPA	20	18	22	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
NC Healthcare	196	182	261	227	219	240	277	388	344
Bond	120	92	142	148	108	17	3	Nil	Nil
Oberon	136	160	173	173	260	263	319	340	335
SNG	162	155	206	188	202	30	Nil	Nil	Nil
TTM	21	26	44	44	54	48	55	34	50
AXIS	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	10	107	146	197	247
BFS	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	55	132	98	101
Frontline	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	43	264	377	422	407
Allied & Central	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	6	16	14	38
Carrick Care	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	2	Nil	Nil
Medlocums	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	8	7	69	88
Peninsula	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	38	55	58
Placement GRP	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	13	26	90
First Choice	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	6	22	21
Knockdean	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	1	Nil

Q3. Please confirm how many hours throughout the timescale detailed in Q1 were filled by off-framework agencies? Can this also be broken down per month.

A3. Please see Table 3 below:

Table 3

2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Off Contract Hours	7392	6914	9072	9299	7243	2237	349	170	Nil

Q4. Between Jan 23-Sept 23, what was the Trust spend per month, for each agency supplier.

A4. Please see Attachment 1.

Q5. Please confirm the average charge rate across Jan 23-Sept 23 period for a Band 5 General Nurse.

A5. Please see Table 4 below:

Table 4

Times	Charge Rate
Monday – Friday 6.00am to 8.00pm	£37.04
Unsocial Hours Monday – Friday 8.00pm – 6.00am Saturday 24 Hours	£42.79
Unsocial Hours: Sunday & Public Holidays 24 Hours	£48.89