

FOI REF: 22/157

3rd May 2022

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

I would like to request the below information from the trust for year 2021/2022.

- **What was your agency spend for nursing and midwifery for the year April 2021- April 2022?**

£3,586,687 (1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 Inclusive)

- **How much of the spend was above the NHSI rate caps April 2021- April 2022?**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not centrally record the spend above NHSI rate caps. To enable the Trust to provide this information would require a manual review of every invoice that has come through against NHSi rate card which would take over the 18 hours timescale. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to this part of your request.

Section 12(1) of the Act allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of compliance would exceed the 'appropriate limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations). These state that this cost limit is £450 for public authorities which are not part of central government or the armed forces. The costs are calculated at £25 per hour per person regardless of the rate of pay, which means that the limit will be exceeded if the work involved would exceed 18 hours. The Trust estimates that the cost of complying with this request would significantly exceed the above limit.

- **Have you used off-framework in the last 6 months?**

Yes.

- **If so, what was the total spend?**

Vulcan Healthcare.	18,287
Pure Healthcare Group.	6,983
Total	25,270

- **Which off-framework agencies have you used?**

Vulcan Healthcare.
Pure Healthcare Group.

- **How many unfilled shifts have you had for:**

NB: Number of Registered Nursing and Support to Nursing unfilled duties between 01/04/2021 & 31/03/2022

• A&E	10,492
• ITU	12,204
• General	6,766 (Includes General, Breast and Vascular Surgery)
• Theatres	7,739
• Mental Health	Not Applicable.
• CPN	Not Applicable.
• Midwifery	17,073
• Paediatrics	5,622
• Neonatal	* Included as part of Maternity
• HCA	15,426 (HCA unfilled duties from above specialties)

- **If this cannot be provided via speciality, please could I have an over-all number?**

Not Applicable.

- **How many vacancies do you have for band 5/6 nurses in the following areas?**

• A&E	45
• ITU	21.3
• General	~4.1
• Theatres	5.1
• Mental Health	0
• CPN	0
• Midwifery	12
• Paediatrics	40.7
• Neonatal	NB Included within Midwifery.
• HCA	0 (Healthcare Assistants are not Band 5/6).

- **How many incident/critical incidents have been declared as a result of staffing?**

The total number of incidents reported from April 2021 to 21st March 2022 related to staffing resources was 394.

- The vast majority of this figure (394) related to no harm/near miss incidents. There were no critical incidents reported.
- An 'incident' does not necessarily mean harm came to a patient.

- **Who is the nursebank/temporary staffing manager?**

Laura Ransom
Temporary Workforce and Volunteer Services Manager

- **What are the contact details for the Nurse Bank / Temporary Staffing Manager?**

Laura.ransom@nhs.net

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
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