

FOI REF: 22/396

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

5th September 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 am writing to you to ask for information under FOI Act 2000 relating to the use of Resident Medical Officers [RMOs] also referred to as Resident Doctors and/or Senior House Officers [SHOs] supplied by agencies to your trust.

Please provide the following information:

- **Does the Trust use or has the Trust ever used RMOs supplied by agencies?**

Yes.

- **If so, how many are being used currently? If you can't answer this, could you please tell us how many contracted hours do RMOs provide for the trust per month or per year?**

13 current workers – current workers are defined as those with a job starting before today's date and ending after today's date.

- **How many hours would an RMO be working in any given week and any given month? What is their shift pattern?**

It will depend on the needs of the service, but average of 35 hours a week and 111 hours a month.

- **What are the departments within the trust where RMOs work (for example orthopaedic, mental health, general medicine, surgery etc).**

Acute Internal Medicine
 Cardiology
 Elderly Care
 Emergency Medicine
 Endocrinology and Diabetes
 ENT
 Gastroenterology
 General Internal Medicine
 General Surgery
 Obstetrics & Gynaecology
 Paediatrics
 Respiratory Medicine
 Rheumatology
 Stroke Medicine
 Urology

- **How much does the trust pay to NES Healthcare Ltd (or any other NES company within NES Holdings (UK) Limited group) per hour per RMO? Please ideally break this down by grade and if it's not possible tell us the average rate.**

£0

- **If the trust receives RMOs from agencies other than NES Healthcare Ltd please tell us the names of those agencies and rates paid to each per RMO per hour.**

Clarification was sought with regard to whether you require a list of agencies we use or the rates we pay and confirmation was received that the rates of pay would be preferable in this case.

Please see the table below for the rates of pay:

Worker	Total charge
1	£40.19
2	£53.93
3	£51.34
4	£51.33
5	£51.33
6	£52.50
7	£53.54
8	£53.93
9	£53.93
10	£51.02
11	£51.02
12	£50.54
13	£50.54

- **What was the Trust's total spend on RMOs in 2020, 2021 and 2022? Please break this down by agencies supplying RMOs.**

2020 - £778,454.01

2021 - £802,544.36

2022 - £615,977.33

Spend is allocated to a year based on when the timesheets were paid. Spend includes pay, NI, pension, expenses, Ltd Co VAT and commission and VAT is included for standard placements only. 2022 includes up to payroll week 15 2022/23.

We cannot provide this split by agency as this would be commercially sensitive information as we have provided average hours worked.

Whilst the Trust holds the information requested, it is applying a Section 43(2) exemption in relation to this part of the request as the release of the information is likely to prejudice commercial interests of third parties. This is because release of the information could be detrimental to their competitive position in the market.

In applying the exemption consideration has been given to the public interest in enabling scrutiny of public sector decision making and the general public interest in accountability and transparency.

In this instance, we consider that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the public interest in disclosing the information.

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, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net