

FOI REF: 22/665

7<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Tel: 0300 131 4500

Website: [www.esht.nhs.uk](http://www.esht.nhs.uk)

## 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:

**If you hold data for more than one legal entity may I ask that these are supplied in response separately so as to avoid any confusion when the data is analysed.**

**1. Please confirm the legal name of your organisation**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT)

**2. Are you a foundation trust?**

No.

**3. Are you a teaching hospital / teaching trust?**

No.

**4. What is your NHS geographical location (for example London, East, South West etc.)**

South East.

**5. What is your current number of nursing staff?**

Qualified Nursing: Headcount - 2349 (whole time equivalent) - 2091.1.

**6. What is your current vacancy (FTE) for qualified nursing?**

135.5.

- 7. What is your current vacancy (FTE) for unqualified nursing (eg. Care support worker)**

210.5 (Additional Clinical Services).

- 8. What was your total framework agency spend on qualified nursing for the last financial year?**

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 its commercial interests.

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.

We have concluded that by providing the spend would cause harm to the Trust and the NHS, as agencies may use this information to request increased rates to ESHT and other Trusts, putting supply at risk.

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

- 9. What was your total framework agency usage (hours) on qualified nursing for the last financial year?**

117247.5 hours.

- 10. What was your total framework agency spend on unqualified nursing for the last financial year?**

Section 43(2) exemption applied, please see question 8 above.

- 11. What was your total framework agency usage (hours) on unqualified nursing for the last financial year?**

52413.75 hours.

- 12. What was your total non-framework agency spend on qualified nursing for the last financial year?**

Section 43(2) exemption applied, please see question 8 above.

- 13. What was your total non-framework agency usage (hours) on qualified nursing for the last financial year?**

423.5 hours.

- 14. What was your total non-framework agency spend on unqualified nursing for the last financial year?**

Section 43(2) exemption applied, please see question 8 above.

**15. What was your total non-framework agency usage (hours) on unqualified nursing for the last financial year?**

0 hours.

**16. Who supplies your bank staff? (In house or NHSP, Locums Nest etc.)**

In house.

**17. In the last financial year did you recruit overseas nursing staff?**

Yes.

**18. For overseas nursing staff do you do your own recruitment or use an agent?**

Agent.

**19. How many nursing posts did you fill with overseas recruits in the last financial year?**

110

**20. Moving forward will your overseas recruitment be managed by the trust or via the ICS**

Currently Trust discussions with ICS.

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](mailto: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  
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