

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 2UD

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

19th November 2024

FOI REF: 24/721

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:

1) Can you please disclose the Bank Staff Pay Rates for Doctors per month, by grade and specialty over the last 12 months.

Section 17- Notice of Refusal.

Under Section FOIA Section 1 (1) (a) The Trust would confirm that while it does hold 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 sharing commercials could disadvantage the incumbent supplier against their competitors. The information could provide competitors with the suppliers pricing, which could result in these suppliers obtaining a competitive advantage which could result in the Trust not obtaining best value for money.

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

2) Please also provide the average and highest charge rate for locum doctors, by grade and specialty over the same period.

Clarification was sought with regard to what you mean by 'Locum doctors' and confirmation was received that you require agency staff.

Section 17 – Notice of Refusal.

Please see the response to question 1.

3) Please provide the total number of locum doctors that have transferred to Bank over the last 12 months, please present the numbers in a monthly format and by grade and specialty.

Nov-23	1 Medicine SHO
Dec-23	1 Medicine SHO
Jan-24	1 Medicine SHO
Feb-24	1 Cardiology Consultant
Mar-24	1 Medicine SHO
Apr-24	1 Medicine SHO
May-24	1 Medicine SHO
Jun-24	1 Emergency Medicine SpR
Aug-24	1 General Surgery SpR

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 (<u>eshtr.foi@nhs.net</u>), 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

Freedom of Information Department esh-tr.foi@nhs.net