

FOI REF: 24/848

7th January 2025

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Tel: 0300 131 4500
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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. How many of your Fixed Term Consultants are NOT on the specialist register (for fixed term consultants hired in year 2024, 1 January to 20 Nov inclusive.**

Note: If the answer to Q1 is zero, then Q2-Q5 are not applicable and the FOI is complete.

Clarification was sought with regard to the following:

Would you please confirm what is the definition for the highest level of training - what is being asked?

Would you please confirm if you are referring to agency doctors or is this international doctors in locum/ agency posts.

Confirmation was received that you require, by highest level of training - you mean specialist training (overseas), and you mean both fixed term consultants and locum consultants. Our responses are below.

Zero.

- 2. For UK doctors hired in the Fixed Term Consultant roles identified in Q1 (1 Jan-20 Nov 2024 and NOT on the specialist register), what was the highest level of postgraduate training completed by the doctors at point of hire as a Fixed Term Consultant at your trust. Please list the anonymous data as Doctor 1 = ST/CT level, Doctor 2 = ST/CT level etc. If you cannot list the individual doctors anonymously by training level completed - please state why, for example some reasons why may be "our hiring system only documents ST3+ and/or we have never validated or reviewed their formal specialist training documents because we rely on the agency for that so do not hold any of these documents, only the CV.**

Note: FYI: ICO has already reviewed and over-ruled the use of Section 40(2) as an exemption for this data request in prior FOI because the data is not personalized.

Not applicable.

- 3. For overseas doctors recruited to the Fixed Term Consultant job role 1 Jan to 20 Nov 2024 who are NOT on the specialist register, and have no formal specialist training posts completed in UK please state the highest level of postgraduate training completed overseas and separately the number of postgraduate experience overseas. List this data anonymously as Doctor 1, Doctor 2 etc. Please include the name of the formal training post overseas (for example in UK it is CT/ST1-8, what is the name of their formal specialist training posts in their home country). If the overseas doctor has completed formal specialist training posts in UK, please state the highest level attained at point of hire in the Fixed Term Consultant role anonymously as Doctor 1, Doctor 2 etc.**

Please explain how the overseas experience or training was validated to ensure it meets the standards of UK formal training posts for specialist training in UK. Who did the validation of the overseas specialist training and experience, the trust or the agency?

Not applicable.

- 4. For the Fixed Term Consultants hired 1 Jan to 20 Nov 2024 inclusive, and who are NOT on the specialist register, please provide the time length of their Fixed Term contract, in months and days. If their contract was renewed, please list all contracts separately for 1 Jan-20 Nov 2024. Please provide the data anonymously, ie Doctor 1, Doctor 2, Doctor 3 etc**

Not applicable.

- 5. Was an agency involved in the Fixed Term Consultant placement in the jobs 1 Jan to 20 Nov 2024 as detailed in Q1 ('not on the specialist register')? If yes, did the trust rely on the agency to validate all postgraduate training and experience documents, and does the trust hold these documents on file or are they only held by the agency?**

Not applicable.

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

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