

FOI REF: 25/550

8<sup>th</sup> August 2025

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:

**Please can you supply information on registered nursing recruitment at your trust over the last two financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25, and the months since the start of the 2025-26 financial year, answering the following questions:**

1. **Are there currently, or have there been any recruitment freezes in place affecting solely, or including, the registered nurse workforce [i.e band 5 and up] in the last two financial years, and/or up to present day?**

No.

- I. **If yes, have any of these recruitment freezes specifically targeted at entry level band 5 nurses [i.e: registered nurses on the starting pay point of band 5]?**

Not applicable.

- II. **If yes, please provide the timeframes and reason for the freezes.**

Not applicable.

2. **How many band 5 registered nurse vacancies do you currently have at your trust?**

4.3 whole time equivalents as of June 25.

3. **How many entry-level band 5 domestically trained/recruited nurses have you recruited at your trust during the last two years? [Please also detail separately any internationally recruited nurses you have taken on at entry level band 5 in the same time period]**

24 newly qualified recruits (including those joining on Band 3, pending receipt of professional registration).

88 international recruits (including those joining on Band 3, pending receipt of professional registration).

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

Freedom of Information Department  
[esh-tr.foi@nhs.net](mailto:esh-tr.foi@nhs.net)