

FOI REF: 25/806

21st November 2025

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2UD

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: 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:

1. Neutral Vend / Master Vend

Do you use a Neutral Vend (NV) or Master Vend (MV) supplier for the following staff groups? [No](#).

If yes, please complete:

Staff Group	Supplier Name	Contract Expiry Date
Medical		
Allied Health Professionals (AHPs)		
Non-Medical, Non-Clinical (NMNC)		
Nursing		

2. Direct Engagement (DE)

Do you use a Direct Engagement supplier for any of the following staff groups? If yes, please complete:

Staff Group	DE Provider	Contract Expiry Date	% of Agency Spend via DE
Medical	Liaison	31/05/2026	100%
Allied Health Professionals (AHPs)	Liaison	31/05/2026	100%
Non-Medical, Non-Clinical (NMNC)	No	Not applicable	Not applicable

Cont.../

3. Agency Spend (Most Recent Financial Year)

Please provide total agency spend (worker pay & agency commission only):

Staff Group	Total Spend (£)
Medical	£1,084,582.94
Allied Health Professionals (AHPs)	£183,609.72
Non-Medical, Non-Clinical (NMNC)	£57,372
Nursing	£1,110,761

4. Agency Hours (Most Recent Financial Year)

If you can access this information, please provide the total number of agency worker hours:

Staff Group	Total Hours Worked
Medical	14,124.91
Allied Health Professionals (AHPs)	5,690.75
Non-Medical, Non-Clinical (NMNC)	1,012.5
Nursing	35,155.62

5. Contract Management

For any Neutral Vend, Master Vend, or Direct Engagement contracts in place, please provide:

- Name of lead contact/responsible officer:

Angela Alletson

- Job title:

Head of Procurement

- Email address:

We are unable to provide the contact details of staff as we consider this information to be exempt from release in accordance with section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act (Prohibition on disclosure) and would refer to the Privacy and Electronic Communications EC Directive Regulations 2003 which provide specific rules on electronic communication services, including marketing (by phone, fax, email or text) and keeping communications services secure. We will not provide any information that could result in the transmission of unsolicited communications which may place an unacceptable risk to our email network and could also have a detrimental impact on patient care and treatment.

The contact number for the Trust is accessible on the Trust website <http://www.esht.nhs.uk>.

This is an absolute exemption and there is, therefore, no requirement to consider the public interest.

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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