

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-089

22 February 2023

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we do hold the information you are requesting
- **Please provide your trust's spending on 'on-framework' recruitment agencies in 2021/22 and this financial year (2022/23);***

Agency Spend (£000s) Per Financial year	2021/22	YTD 2022/23
On Framework	22915	19101

- **Please provide your trust's total spending on 'off-framework' recruitment agencies in 2021/22 and this financial year (2022/23);**

Agency Spend (£000s) Per Financial year	2021/22	YTD 2022/23
Off Framework	5910	7870

- **Please provide a list of all the 'off-framework' recruitment agencies that your trust uses and show how much each agency has been paid in 2021/22 and this financial year (2022/23);**

Independent Clinical Services t/a Thornbury Nursing Services

2021/2022 £5910

2022/2023 £7870

- **How many times has your trust 'broken glass' and paid above NHS capped rates for doctors, nurses and other clinical staff in 2021/22 and this financial year (2022/23); 2022-2023**

2021/2022: We do not hold this information.

2022/23: 7221

• Can you please state how many times your trust filled shifts with staff supplied by Thornbury Nursing Services in 2021/22 and this financial year (2022/23)?;

This is commercially sensitive information and will not be shared at an organisational level. Section 43 of the FOI Act provides that information is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person. Therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

• Can you please provide the highest per hour rate paid to Thornbury Nursing Services for a shift in 2021/22 and this financial year (2022/23)? In each case, can you please detail the job category of the role provided.

We have not provided the information in the requested format as we have considered that there is the potential for the individuals to be identified, when considered with other information that may be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of information would breach the Data Protection Act. Therefore please find that Section 40 (2) exemption contained within the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is engaged. Section 40 is the exemption for personal information.

*** These are staff agencies that have been approved for use by the NHS via framework agreements, as explained in the June 2019 'Agency rules' document by NHS England and NHS Improvement.**

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Data Protection Officer
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust
Trust Headquarters
Marlborough Street
Bristol
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust