

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 23-545**

14 August 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

**- How many requirements (hours) were released to on-framework agencies during the period 1st July 2022 until 30th June 2023, per calendar month, showing how many were filled and how many were unfilled, for the below-listed specialities\*?**

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.

**- How many requirements (hours) were released to off-framework agencies during the period 1st July 2022 until 30th June 2023, per calendar month, for the below-listed specialities\*?**

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.

**- What is the total agency usage for nurses in the period 1st July 2022 until 30th June 2023? Please provide hours supplied, and total expenditure, broken down per calendar month, and per recruitment agency (company name) for the below specialities\*. Please indicate which agencies are operating on-framework and which are operating off-framework.**

Total expenditure: Please see the attached document.

Hours supplied: 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.

**- Please provide the average hourly charge rate per calendar month, per recruitment agency, per speciality listed below, for the period 1st July 2022 until 30th June 2023.**

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.

**- Please confirm how many international Band 5 Nurses have been permanently recruited by the trust, per calendar month, between 1st July 2022 and 30th June 2023, including their country of origin where feasible.**

346. The majority of the international recruits are from India. We cannot break this down further - due to the low numbers, we have considered that there is the potential for individuals to be identified from the information provided, when considered with other information that may also be in the public domain. In our view disclosure of these low figures would breach one of the Data Protection Principles set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act, namely Principle 1. The Trust therefore finds that the Section 40(2) exemption contained within the Freedom of information Act 2000 is engaged. This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

**- Please confirm how many international Band 5 Nurses are forecasted to be permanently recruited by the trust, between 1st July 2023 and 30th June 2024, including their country of origin where feasible.**

321 to be recruited between 1st July 2023 – 30th June 2024, from around the world including India, Caribbean, UAE and Philippines.

**\* For the aforementioned specialities, the following specialities are requested:**

- General (incl Medical / Surgical / General)**
- A&E**
- ITU**
- Theatres**
- Midwifery**
- RMN / Mental Health**

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**