

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 23-755

6 November 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 some of the information you are requesting

I would like to request information regarding the money spent by your trust on NHS strike cover, over doctor strike periods.

For the following strike dates (inclusive):

**13/3/23 - 15/3/23
11/4/23 - 14/4/23
14/6/23 - 16/6/23
13/7/23 - 18/7/23
20/7/23 - 21/7/23
11/8/23 - 14/8/23
24/8/23 - 25/8/23
19/9/23 - 22/9/23
02/10/23 - 04/10/23**

Please can you provide:

1. The total temporary staff spend on each day in the periods requested

We do not record whether strike cover was undertaken by agency or substantive staff.

2. The total spend on strike cover on each day in the periods requested

**13/3/23 - 15/3/23 £630,000
11/4/23 - 14/4/23 £702,000
14/6/23 - 16/6/23 £523,000
13/7/23 - 18/7/23 £818,000
20/7/23 - 21/7/23 £134,000
11/8/23 - 14/8/23 £739,000
24/8/23 - 25/8/23 £138,000**

19/9/23 - 22/9/23 £735,000

02/10/23 - 04/10/23 *

*The figures for October are not available yet.

Please note the figures above are the monthly costs of industrial action.

We record total spend on strike cover costs on our general ledger by month, and do not record by day. This means we are unable to provide a day-by-day breakdown of total spend on strike cover for each day.

We can calculate and provide a breakdown of total spend by strike period, as our general ledger allows us to track strike cover cost by additional spend of staffing by the roles we have used to provide cover for striking staff.

3. The top five daily rates paid for i) doctor and ii) nurse on each day in the periods requested

Advance Practitioner Nurses covering junior doctor staffing gaps were paid the same as a junior doctor - £55p/hr day and £75p/hr night.

Consultants and SAS (Specialty and Specialist) Doctors covering junior doctor staffing gaps were paid according to the table below.

Hourly rates	Core hours: 0800 – 1700	Twilight: 1700 – 0000	Overnight 0000 - 0800	Non-resident on-call
Consultant	£150	£210	£269	£100
Associate spec	£150	£210	£269	£100
Specialty doc	£90	£110	£161	£80

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