

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 24-862**

11 November 2024

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 confirm the number of shifts sent to agencies for fulfilment per month for Band 5 and Band 6 Nurses, broken down by specialty (e.g., A&E, ITU) from June 2024 to October 2024.**
- **Please confirm the number of shifts that were filled by agencies each month from June 2024 to October 2024.**
- **Please confirm any specific days, weeks, or months during which agency usage is consistently highest.**
- **Please provide the agency spend per month by nursing band (e.g., Band 5, Band 6) for agency nurses, from June 2024 to October 2024.**
- **Please provide a breakdown of the filled Nursing shifts by agency on a monthly basis over the period from June 2024 to October 2024.**
- **Please confirm the number of Nursing hours filled by off-framework agencies, broken down by month, between June 2024 and October 2024.**
- **Please provide details of the Trust's spend per month for each nursing agency supplier during the period of June 2024 to October 2024.**
- **Please confirm if a Preferred Supplier List (PSL) or tiered system is in place for Nursing agency engagement.**
- **How many different agencies does the Trust engage with monthly to fill nursing shifts, and is there a limit on the number of agencies used?**
- **Does the Trust have a projected agency usage plan for the coming year, and are there specific goals for reducing agency dependency?**
- **If you answered yes to the above question, what are they?**
- **Is there a long-term strategy in place to reduce agency nursing costs or transition to alternative staffing models?**
- **If you answered yes to the above question, what are they?**

We are now in the process of moving to an official tender for the future delivery of this service

and associated contract and we are currently unable to release any information regarding this until after the award has been approved.

By releasing any information during this period will unduly bias a potential bidder over the rest of the supplier pool and would be in conflict with the Public Contract Regulations 2015. 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.

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**