

4 August 2022

Introduction of New Terms and Conditions for Consultant Contracts

The below freedom of information requests relate to the introduction of the new terms and conditions for consultant contracts.

For the calendar year 2004 – 2005

1. How many Consultants transferred from the Old Contract to the New Contract?
2. Of those Consultants that transferred to the New Contract, please identify the date on which they transferred and confirm:
 - a) how many were transferred to Schedule 13 (M401 -M421, M430); and
 - b) how many were transferred to Schedule 14 (M400).
3. Of the Consultants who transferred to Schedule 14 (M400) of the New Contract, how was their experience recognised in order to be placed on the scales (please provide an explanation and relevant documents evidencing the approach taken)?
4. Of the Consultants who transferred in 2004/05 to Schedule 14 (M400) pay scale of the New Contract, please confirm how many were transferred to each M400 point 0 to 19.

For the calendar years 2014 - 2019

5. How many Consultants during the period 2014-2019 transferred from the “Old Contract” to the “New Contract”?
6. Of those Consultants that transferred to the New Contract during this period, please confirm:
 - a) how many were transferred to Schedule 13 (M401 – M421, M430); and
 - b) how many were transferred to Schedule 14 (M400).
7. Of the Consultants who transferred to Schedule 14 (M400) of the New Contract during this period, how was their experience recognised in order to be placed on the scales (please provide an explanation and relevant documents evidencing the approach taken)?
8. Of the Consultants who transferred in the period 2014 - 2019 to Schedule 14 (M400) pay scale of the New Contract, please confirm how many were transferred to each M400, point 0 to 19.
9. How many individuals were newly employed (be that as a new employee or a change in role) as Consultants during the period 2014 – 2019.
10. Of the individuals who were newly employed as Consultants (be that as a new employee or a change in role); please confirm:

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- a) How many were remunerated according to/placed on the pay scale at Schedule 13 (M401 – M421, M430)**
- b) How many were remunerated according to/placed on the pay scale at Schedule 14 (M400)**

Belfast Trust is unable to provide this information as it would take more than 18 hours to locate, retrieve and extract the information.

The Trust considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information Act under Section 12. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified as £450 for public authorities such as Belfast Trust. This represents the cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

In addition, much of the information requested relates to pre-Belfast Trust and we would not have access to information from the Legacy Trusts.

We also believe that the Department of Health would hold this information centrally, as they led the implementation of new Consultant Contracts.

You may wish to direct your enquiry to the Department of Health
Email: FOI@health-ni.gov.uk