

12 August 2022

Resident Medical Officers

Request

I am writing to you to ask for information under FOI Act 2000 relating to the use of Resident Medical Officers [RMOs] also referred to as Resident Doctors and/or Senior House Officers [SHOs] supplied by agencies to your trust.

Please provide the following information:

-Does the Trust use or has the Trust ever used RMOs supplied by agencies?

-If so, how many are being used currently? If you can't answer this, could you please tell us how many contracted hours do RMOs provide for the trust per month or per year?

-How many hours would an RMO be working in any given week and any given month? What is their shift pattern?

-What are the departments within the trust where RMOs work (for example orthopaedic, mental health, general medicine, surgery etc).

-How much does the trust pay to NES Healthcare Ltd (or any other NES company within NES Holdings (UK) Limited group) per hour per RMO? Please ideally break this down by grade and if it's not possible tell us the average rate.

-If the trust receives RMOs from agencies other than NES Healthcare Ltd please tell us the names of those agencies and rates paid to each per RMO per hour.

-What was the Trust's total spend on RMOs in 2020, 2021 and 2022? Please break this down by agencies supplying RMOs.

Response

BHSCT does not employ RMO grade doctors. We considered if comparable grades might be considered, but this is not straightforward and would entail significant work to individually analyse all locum shifts for doctor, and even then, the data would not be comparable.

We also checked work for NES Healthcare Ltd – this organisation is not listed as a locum agency recognised by Belfast Trust. We have therefore no records of locum work related to provision of workers from this organization.