

15 May 2024

Tier 1 and Tier 2 Nursing Agencies

Can you please provide me with the below information?

- 1. Please specify which areas Tier 2 Agencies are currently block booking their staff**

Belfast Trust are unable to provide the information you have requested as we do not explicitly utilise agency for block bookings or long term lines of work, the use of agencies is strictly controlled and every effort is made to backfill vacant shifts with our own staff working additional hours, overtime and our nurse bank employees.

Section 43(2) states that information is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). In accordance with the FOI Act 2000 we cannot fulfill this part of your request under Section 43 Commercial Interest. The arguments to maintain this exemption outweigh the arguments for disclosure. Its disclosure would be prejudicial to the commercial interest of the agency providers.

- 2. Please specify which areas Tier 1 Agencies are currently block booking their staff**

Belfast Trust are unable to provide the information you have requested as we do not explicitly utilise agency for block bookings or long term lines of work, the use of agencies is strictly controlled and every effort is made to backfill vacant shifts with our own staff working additional hours, overtime and our nurse bank employees.

Section 43(2) states that information is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including

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3. Please list the breakdown of shifts filled by tier 2 agencies, specifying each agency and which areas these shifts were filled in within the last 3 months

Belfast Trust are unable to provide the information you have requested as we do not explicitly utilise Tier 2 agencies. The use of agencies is strictly controlled and every effort is made to backfill vacant shifts with our own staff working additional hours, overtime and our nurse bank employees.

Belfast Trust can confirm the following Tier 2 agency use for the reporting period January – March 2024:

Period	Registrant shifts	Non-Registrant shifts	Total
January 2024	1685	4759	6444
February 2024	1560	4530	6090
March 2024	1567	4906	6473

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