

14 February 2024

Nursing Agency Spend

- 1. Please confirm how many shifts were sent out for agencies to fill (per month), for Band 5 between Oct 23 – Dec 23 by discipline, i.e. General, A&E, ITU, paediatrics?**

Belfast Trust are unable to provide the information you have requested, as it is not currently captured in this way. However, we can confirm the total number of shifts sent out to agencies per month for all Band 5 Nursing Registrants (inclusive of General, A&E, ICU & Paediatrics) is:

Agency	Total
Oct-23	6209
Nov-23	5841
Dec-23	5542

- 2. Please confirm how many of these shifts were filled by agencies per month for the same timespan as detailed in Q1. (Please can this be broken down per agency?)**

Belfast Trust are unable to provide the information you have requested, as it is not currently captured in this way. However, we can confirm the total number of shifts filled by agencies per month for all Band 5 Nursing Registrants (inclusive of General, A&E, ICU & Paediatrics) is:

Agency	Total
Oct-23	5226
Nov-23	5111
Dec-23	4649

- 3. Please confirm how many hours throughout the timescale detailed in Q1 were filled by off-framework agencies? Can this also be broken down per month?**

Please see below the hours filled by off-framework agencies, broken down per month.

Please see Appendix A, this provides the list of agencies utilised, including off-framework agencies, we can only provide the hours totals for each month.

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To provide the off-framework agency hours per month would be commercially sensitive.

Exemption 43 Commercial Interests

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.

Agency	Total Hrs
Oct-23	54,301
Nov-23	50,888
Dec-23	44,159

4. Between Oct 23 – Dec 23, what was the trust spend per month, for each agency supplier

We can only provide the totals overall for each month and the total spend for each agency.

To provide the agency spend per month would be commercially sensitive. To give this level of detail would identify payment structures.

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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.

Agency	Total cost
Oct-23	£2,225k
Nov-23	£2,693k
Dec-23	£2,309k

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Appendix A.

Frontline Recruitment Group Ltd.
Axis Nursing Agency Ltd.
Direct Healthcare
Direct Medics Ltd.
The Placement Group Ltd. T/A Just Nurses
Pulsecare T/A Oberon Agency
Medlocums Recruitment Ltd.
N.C Healthcare Ltd.
MPA Recruitment Ltd.
TTM Healthcare Ltd.
Allied & Clinical Recruitment Limited
BFS Healthcare Ltd.
Red Group Personnel Ltd.
Leadcare Nursing Agency Ltd.
First Choice Selection Services Ltd.
Pure Healthcare Group Ltd.
Carrik Care Ltd.
Peninsula Care Services (NI) Ltd.