

6 May 2022

Nursing Agency Usage at Belfast Trust in the last 4 months

1.(a) Who is the head of procurement at Belfast Health and Social Care Trust responsible for approving Nursing Agency usage?

The Procurement and Logistics Service at the Business Services Organisation manage nursing agency procurement regionally, on behalf of Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, and on a regional level. Gerry Gormley is the contact person for this.

(b) Secondly, who is the temporary / flexible staffing lead responsible for the management of this service at Belfast Health and Social Care Trust?

The Belfast Trust Nurse Bank co-ordinate nursing agency bookings. The Service Improvement Lead (Bank and Roster), Paul Delaney, has operational management responsibility for this service.

2. Please can you provide the contact number and email address in relation to both question 1 (a) and (b)

Email address for Paul Delaney: paul.delaney@belfasttrust.hscni.net
Email address for Gerry Gormley: Gerry.gormley@hscni.net

3. Have you used Off-framework nursing agency staff in the last 4 months at Belfast Health and Social Care Trust?

We confirm that there has been off-framework nursing agency usage in Belfast Trust within the past 4 months.

4. How much was your Off-Framework agency spend for each of the following staff groups between December 2021 – March 2022 (a) Theatre Scrub/Recovery/ Anaesthetic nurse (b) Midwifery (c) Chemotherapy Nurse

Belfast Trust is unable to provide the information you have requested, as it is not currently captured in this way. However, we can confirm the expenditure on off-framework agency using Specialties for H21 – Theatres, H23 – Anaesthetics, A1 – Oncology

For the period December 2021 to March 2022 - Off-contract Nurse agency spend:

a – Theatre Scrub/Recovery/ Anaesthetic	£587k
b – Midwifery	£ 0k
c – Oncology	£110k

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5. Following the same breakdown of staff groups in Question 3, how many Off-framework shifts have been unfilled between December 2021 – March 2022?

Belfast Trust does not measure or report on the fill rates for non-framework agencies.

Please note that the use of non-framework agencies is strictly controlled and every effort is made to backfill vacant shifts with our own staff working overtime, our nurse bank employees and our contracted agency staff.