

14 October 2024

Medical Locum Agency Cascade 2023/24

In relation to your supply of locum Doctors, please could you provide the answers to the following requests for the financial year 2023/24?

- 1. Please could you confirm how many vacancy requirements were sent in total to both framework and non-framework agencies? Please also provide a monthly break-down for each grade and specialty.
- 2. Please could you confirm how many of these vacancies were filled by framework and non-framework agencies? Please also provide the monthly break-down per agency for each grade and specialty.

Please find the attached response to points 1 and 2. The report shows the vacancies which includes the filled and unfilled post; and the filled shifts are also indicated. Some teams' record long term bookings so these are identified in blue as this figure indicates the number of doctor booked rather than the number of vacant shifts filled (or unfilled)

Please Note:

We are unable to provide an exact figure where numbers are very low. Due to low numbers of <5, this would reduce numbers to discoverable limits, and we consider that individuals could be identified and disclosure of this information would breach the first data protection principle, which relates to the fair and lawful processing of personal data. Therefore, we have concluded that this information will indicate <5 only under FOI Act Section 40(2) Personal Information relating to a third party, of the FOI Act.

3. Please could you confirm the total number of hours worked by agency doctors for each grade and specialty? Please also provide a monthly breakdown of the medical locum hours worked per grade and specialty for each framework and non-framework agency.

The hours worked for long term doctors is not recorded so we are unable to give an accurate position.

Contact: publicliaison@belfasttrust.hscni.net