



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-324

**Royal Stoke University Hospital**  
**Quality, Safety and Compliance Department**  
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Stoke-on-Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST4 6QG

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Tel: 01782 676474  
Email [FOI@uhn.nhs.uk](mailto:FOI@uhn.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 28<sup>th</sup> August 2018 (received into our office 29<sup>th</sup> August) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding locum agency doctors.

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in question 3 is not held centrally, but may be recorded in individual departmental records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all departmental records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all departmental records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for.

Under section 16 of the FOI Act we are required to provide requestors with advice and assistance where possible. We would therefore like to advise you that if your request is shortened to just what we are able to comply within the 18 hour time frame for question 3 we have provided below.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

**Q1 Please could you provide me a breakdown of the locum agency doctor spend for the last financial year?**

**Please break this down in to specialty and grades**

A1 Please see below:

<b>Specialty</b>	<b>Consultant</b>	<b>Staff / Career Grades</b>	<b>Trainee Grades</b>	<b>2017/18 Total (£)</b>
Anaes,Critical Care & Theatres	93,866	111,319	94,275	<b>299,460</b>
Child Health	146,278	955	27,794	<b>175,027</b>
Emergency Medicine	1,750,717	107,917	1,488,674	<b>3,347,308</b>
General Medicine	744,121	103,365	573,347	<b>1,420,833</b>
General Surgery	253,518	50,940	309,160	<b>613,618</b>

Heart Centre	0	35,693	317,005	<b>352,698</b>
Imaging	827,588	0	0	<b>827,588</b>
Medicine Division Management	251,358	2,942	214,187	<b>468,486</b>
Neuro-Sciences	407,204	39,221	505,671	<b>952,096</b>
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	0	0	29,252	<b>29,252</b>
Oncology & Haematology	742,503	0	2,166	<b>744,669</b>
Operations	0	0	5,893	<b>5,893</b>
Pathology	502,724	0	351	<b>503,075</b>
Pharmacy	0	0	4,436	<b>4,436</b>
Specialised Medicine	1,299,319	0	201,569	<b>1,500,889</b>
Specialised Surgery	109,346	18,302	207,986	<b>335,634</b>
Trauma	115,432	79,427	250,522	<b>445,381</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>7,243,975</b>	<b>550,080</b>	<b>4,232,286</b>	<b>12,026,341</b>

**Q2 Please could you provide me a breakdown of the permanent doctor vacancies across the Trust?**

A2 I can confirm that the Trust holds information regarding permanent doctor vacancies, but feel this information is exempt under section 21: *information reasonably accessible by other means*. This is because the information is available via the NHS job web site found at the following link: <https://www.nhsjobs.com/>

**Q3 Please could you confirm how many agency locums are currently in post on long term agency contracts? (I.e. more than 6 months)**

A3 Partial section 12 exemption as detailed above. Please see below: please note that these are in post under a direct engagement model.

- 12 x Consultants
- 1 x Specialist Registrar
- 1 x Clinical Fellow

**Q4 Please could you provide how much the Trust has paid to agencies for introductory fees since the last financial year?**

A4 The Trust paid agencies £14,280 for the period April – July 2018 for introductory fees.

**Q5 Please provide details of any overseas recruitment campaigns that the Trust has taken part in for the recruitment of doctors?**

A5 No recruitment campaigns have been undertaken.

\*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

***UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.***

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Leah Carlisle  
**Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance**