

Agency Nursing Spend

Reference Number: RDF2294-24

Date of Response: 19/04/24

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Dear Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust,

Agency Nursing Spend

- Please confirm how many shifts were send out for agencies to fill (per month), for Band 2, Band 5 & Band 6 between June 2023 and January 2024*

Answer: Please see table below for agency Nursing & Midwifery shifts.

* The Trust are unable to provide an accurate report for Royal Devon's Eastern Services prior to October 2023, the information is not held in a reportable format due on the legacy system and process used between the Trust and agencies, Eastern Services did not cascade shifts out to agency but agencies gave their availability and were then booked into shifts'.

Years	Shift Date	Band		
		2	5	6
2023	*Jun	Nil	464	20
	*Jul	Nil	423	19
	*Aug	Nil	524	36
	*Sep	Nil	440	29
	Oct	7	788	26
	Nov	9	1040	28
	Dec	7	757	41
2024	Jan	7	870	17

- 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)*

Please see Trust response on page 2.

*Section 43(2) the Freedom of Information Act: has been applied for information on each Supplier. Please see full FOI Exemption on page 10.

Years	Shift Date	Band		
		2	5	6
2023	* Jun	Nil	2	Nil
		Nil	167	Nil
		Nil	10	Nil
		Nil	15	Nil
		Nil	43	14
		Nil	2	Nil
		Nil	37	Nil
		Nil	32	Nil
		Nil	4	Nil
		Nil	104	Nil
		Nil	15	Nil
		Nil	Nil	6
	* Jul	Nil	188	Nil
		Nil	2	Nil
		Nil	54	11
		Nil	12	Nil
		Nil	4	Nil
		Nil	7	Nil
		Nil	80	Nil
		Nil	21	Nil
		Nil	25	8
	* Aug	Nil	192	Nil
		Nil	16	Nil
		Nil	10	Nil
		Nil	85	15
		Nil	18	Nil
		Nil	5	Nil
		Nil	92	Nil
		Nil	19	Nil
		Nil	22	21
	* Sep	Nil	146	Nil
		Nil	14	Nil
		Nil	10	Nil
		Nil	5	Nil
		Nil	51	10
		Nil	20	Nil
		Nil	1	Nil
		Nil	116	Nil
		Nil	14	Nil
		Nil	4	19
	Oct	Nil	147	Nil
		Nil	34	Nil
		Nil	6	Nil

		Nil	20	Nil
		Nil	19	Nil
		Nil	4	Nil
		Nil	13	Nil
		Nil	1	Nil
		Nil	88	2
		Nil	26	Nil
		Nil	6	Nil
		Nil	2	Nil
		Nil	11	Nil
		Nil	142	Nil
		Nil	19	Nil
		Nil	6	19
		7	141	Nil
	<i>Nov</i>	Nil	104	Nil
		Nil	39	Nil
		Nil	21	Nil
		1	60	Nil
		Nil	31	Nil
		Nil	10	Nil
		Nil	4	Nil
		Nil	155	16
		Nil	19	Nil
		Nil	5	Nil
		Nil	6	Nil
		Nil	7	Nil
		Nil	138	Nil
		Nil	11	Nil
		Nil	1	9
		6	357	Nil
		<i>Dec</i>	Nil	104
	Nil		31	Nil
	Nil		11	Nil
	3		34	Nil
	Nil		15	Nil
	Nil		15	Nil
	Nil		1	Nil
	Nil		1	Nil
	Nil		83	20
	Nil		5	Nil
	Nil		2	Nil
	Nil		11	Nil
	Nil		74	Nil
	Nil		4	Nil
	1		1	21
	Nil		264	Nil
<i>2024</i>	<i>Jan</i>		Nil	135
		Nil	11	Nil

		Nil	11	Nil
		2	58	Nil
		Nil	16	Nil
		Nil	17	Nil
		Nil	7	Nil
		Nil	77	17
		Nil	10	Nil
		Nil	1	Nil
		Nil	6	Nil
		Nil	28	Nil
		Nil	91	Nil
		1	9	Nil
		Nil	265	Nil

Q2. Royal Devon Eastern Services June 2023 to September 2023							
Banding							
June		July		August		September	
AfC Band 5	AfC Band 2	AfC Band 5	AfC Band 2	AfC Band 5	AfC Band 6	AfC Band 2	AfC Band 5
Nil	Nil	12	Nil	7	Nil	Nil	3
12	Nil	12	1	14	Nil	Nil	10
18	Nil	12	Nil	5	Nil	Nil	2
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4	Nil	Nil	10
60	Nil	41	Nil	31	Nil	1	54
5	Nil	17	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	12
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	6	Nil	Nil	18
22	Nil	27	Nil	14	Nil	Nil	30
1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
35	Nil	16	Nil	16	Nil	Nil	34
Nil	Nil	1	Nil	18	Nil	Nil	6
27	Nil	4	Nil	17	Nil	Nil	33
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2

Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
26	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
5	Nil	2	Nil	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
11	Nil	2	Nil	9	Nil	Nil	10
42	Nil	19	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	9
4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
5	1	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	6	Nil	Nil	10
4	Nil	3	Nil	3	Nil	Nil	25
35	Nil	27	Nil	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	7	Nil	Nil	26
57	Nil	15	Nil	12	Nil	Nil	11
476	Nil	392	2	353	1	Nil	468

3. Where there is a Tiered structure of agency suppliers, please can you confirm how many shifts per month were filled by each 'Tier' of supplier used.

Answer: The Trust do not hold this information in a reportable format due to the multiple changes of tier structure throughout the period. All agencies provide at Tier 1 in line with the ICS rate card that was implemented in Nov 2022, with the exception of specialist areas and these are provided at the appropriate ICS rates.

4. Between June 2023 and January 2024, what did the trust spend per month, for each agency supplier?

Answer: Please see the tables below:

- Table 1 represents Royal Devon Northern Services June 2023 to January 2024 and Eastern Services October 2023 to January 2024.
- Table 2 represents Royal Devon Eastern Services June 2023 to September 2023.

*Section 43(2) the Freedom of Information Act: has been applied for each Supplier. Please see full FOI Exemption on page 12.

Years	Shift Date	Grand Total
2023	*Jun	£970
		£1,173
		£2,137
		£3,274
		£4,746
		£5,140
		£6,570
		£14,768
		£18,855
		£33,630
		£45,581
		£84,667
		£99,221
		£37,654
	£36,894	
	*Jul	£15,739
		£7,685
		£7,369
		£6,814
		£2,016
		£984
		£4,677
		£5,477
	*Aug	£5,527
		£6,096
		£10,632
		£21,598
		£42,607
		£55,782
		£100,468
		£75,579
	Sep	£51,854
		£33,481
		£12,309
		£11,689
		£5,113
		£4,516
		£4,367
		£2,227
		£1,175
		£76,272
		£67,061
Oct	£63,626	
	£43,493	
	£15,790	
	£15,661	

		£13,105
		£12,657
		£8,338
		£7,969
		£6,129
		£6,047
		£2,873
		£2,770
		£1,723
		£1,090
		£485
	Nov	£168,310
		£78,240
		£62,347
		£48,513
		£25,831
		£17,311
		£14,166
		£11,074
		£9,386
		£8,383
		£5,284
		£4,251
		£3,523
		£3,357
		£2,346
		£1,941
		Dec
	£485	
	£790	
	£1,501	
	£2,709	
	£4,255	
	£6,377	
	£6,826	
	£11,365	
	£12,423	
	£14,143	
	£14,649	
	£34,048	
	£47,104	
	£49,233	
	£123,473	
2024	Jan	£123,722
		£61,340
		£43,481
		£40,213
		£33,482

		£24,863
		£7,343
		£7,227
		£5,371
		£4,999
		£4,611
		£4,407
		£3,577
		£3,328
		£472

Years	Shift Date	Grand Total
2023	Jun	527
		1,159
		1,581
		2,640
		3,131
		4,658
		5,914
		7,229
		7,804
		28,965
		33,687
		36,744
		61,541
		10,6134
		397,323
	66,325	
	57,626	
	24,488	
	19,855	
	14,128	
	12,926	
	7,650	
	7,602	
	2,041	
	1,522	
	756	
	633	
	625	
	596	
	493	
	9,098	
	462	
	516	
	1,260	
	1,763	
	2,732	
	3,394	
	3,996	
	4,236	
	4,774	
	7,013	
	7,698	
	8,439	
	45,780	

		47,240
		47,922
21,0856		
Sept		-756
		581
		1,425
		2,647
		2,726
		3,288
		3,329
		3,525
		4,155
		4,331
		4,484
		5,261
		9,770
		10,525
		22,800
		52,621
		26,2503

5. Please confirm the average charge rate across this 12-month period for a Band 5 General nurse.

Answer: The average charge rate for a B5 general Nurse – Day was £38.10.

6. Please confirm Total off framework spend across the period June 2023 and January 2024. Can this also be broken down per month.

Answer: Please see the table below representing the total off-framework nursing spend.

Years	Shift Date	Grand Total (£)
2023	Jul	156,123
	Aug	110,989
	Sep	42,985
	Oct	12,657
	Nov	8,382
	Dec	12,422
2024	Jan	33,482
Grand Total		377,040

- Section 43 when applicable: Agencies used per month.

Section 43 (2) - Commercial Interests

The Trust holds this information.

This information is commercially sensitive, and its release would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Trust.

In applying the exemption under Section 43(2) the Freedom of Information Act the Trust has balanced the public interest in withholding the information against the public interest in disclosure. The Trust has considered all the relevant factors in the public interest test and concluded that the benefit to the public in applying the exemption outweighs the public interest in releasing the information requested as a result of the prejudices and losses that would potentially affect the Trust and patients. As such this information is being withheld under Section 43 (2).

Public Interest Test (PIT) - Non- Disclosure: -

The Trust cannot reveal the Agencies used because to supply number of shifts per agency and also give the spend per agency would give sufficient information to pinpoint the exact cost and thus provide competitors with a benchmark to beat competitive tendering. That advantage would contravene the principle of fairness required from the Trust in Regulation 18 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The release of Agencies used per Month would undermine the Trust's suppliers' competitiveness in the market and breach the Trust's contracts with suppliers, which typically require contract values to be kept confidential.

Public Interest Test (PIT) – For Disclosure

The Trust understand the need for openness and accountability for tender processes and price, and it recognises the need for value of money.