

Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act – 2023.228
Released – 2 October 2023

Thank you for your email which was received on the 20 September 2023 requesting information regarding agency use.

Please find detailed below a summary of your request, together with our response.

Summary of your original request:

1. A list of the OFF-framework agencies used by the trust in the past 12 months'

Superior Care
We Guard
Go Tec Consultancy

2. The average length of time a long-term agency placement is left vacant before being filled by the agencies who are ON framework in the past 12 months'

We cascade duties to framework agencies with a lead in time of 21 days before the duty date unless the duty is urgent to fill

3. How many long-term bookings and individual shifts have been placed through OFF-framework agencies in the past 12 months' (Please separate individual shifts and long-term placements)

386 individual placements and zero long-term bookings

4. Average cost per hour for Band 5, 6 and 7 agency workers paid to OFF-framework agencies in the past 12 months'

Only Band 5 RN used and average hourly cost inclusive of all enhanced/weekend/bank holiday payments is £33.01 per hour

5. Who in the trust has authority to approve the use of off-framework agencies (name and job title)

6. If authority to use off-framework agencies in the trust lies with a specific department i.e., temporary staffing/staffing solutions/agency bookings/NHSP or equivalents, then who in the trust has the authority to override such decision made by that department (name and job title)

It is Trust policy to not release names and contact details of staff below Executive Director Level as this constitutes personal information which is exempt under Section 40(2) in conjunction with Section 40(3A)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which relates to 'Personal Information'.

An excerpt of the relevant Freedom of Information legislation can be found below:

Chair John Goulston Chief Executive Mairead McCormick
Trust HQ Trinity House, 110-120 Upper Pemberton, Eureka Park, Ashford, Kent TN25 4AZ

Section 40 – Personal information

(2) Any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if—

(a) it constitutes personal data which does not fall within subsection (1), and

(b) either the first, second or third condition below is satisfied.

(3A) The first condition is that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act

(a) would contravene any of the data protection principles, or

(b) would do so if the exemptions in section 24(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (manual unstructured data held by public authorities) were disregarded.

However, we can confirm that the Executive Director with overall responsibility for temporary staffing is Victoria Robinson-Collins - Chief People Officer.