

**Information Governance**

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30 August 2023

**Our reference: FOI DA4868**

I am responding to your request for information received 1 August 2023 This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Coordinator

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113  
Web: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

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We promise to work together creatively to: learn 'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality of life and continuously improve our services.  
**We care . We respect . We are inclusive**

**Interim Chief Executive:** Lorraine Sunduza  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

**Request:**

**Question 1: Do you employ nurse associates in your trust?**

Answer: Yes.

**Question 2: How much funding is allocated to training for all staff?**

Answer: The annual budget allocated for staff training is £5,521,758

**Question 3: How much of that funding is dedicated to training nurse associates to registered nurses via the nurse apprenticeship program?**

Answer: The apprenticeship levy is funding separate to the training budget.

The Trust has committed £1,141,200.

**Question 4: Are you already signed up with an education provider to provide course?**

Answer: Yes.

**Question 5: If you do have an educational provider then who is it?**

Answer: Nursing Associates: City University and University of Bedfordshire.  
RNDA: University of Greenwich and University of Bedfordshire.

**Question 6: When is the next course due to start?**

Answer: Nursing Associate: September/October 2023  
RNDA: via Nursing Associate route October 2023

**Question 7: When is the next intake for the course?**

**Answer:** Nursing Associate: City university next intake in Oct 2023.  
Nursing Associate: University of Bedfordshire next intake is in October 2023  
RNDA: RNDA intake for Nursing associates October 2023 and Jan 2024 via University of Greenwich and University of Bedfordshire

**Question 8: Do you have a multi year contract with this educational provider?**

Answer: We use the Salisbury NHS Framework for our contracting.

**Question 9: If you do, then how long for?**

Answer: This covers the apprentice for the duration of their apprenticeship programme

**Question 10: Who is your educational contact in your trust who deals with nurse associates to nurse apprenticeships?**

Answer: Caroline Ogunsola.

**Question 11: What is the salary of an apprentice nurse in your organisation?**

Answer: Nursing Associates: remain on their current band ie. Band 3 or 4.  
RNDA: Their current Band (either Band 3 or 4)

**Question 12: Are you actively promoting and signing up Nurse associates within your organisation for this course currently?**



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Answer: Yes.

**Question 13: How long do Nurse associates have to work with the trust to be able to sign on to that course?**

Answer: Two years.

**Question 14: Do you get your funding from the apprenticeship levy?**

Answer: Yes.

**Question 15: If so, who is your contact at the levy?**

Answer: Harriet Bone, Learning & Development Business Partner for Apprenticeships

**Question 16: If you do not receive funding from the apprenticeship levy then who do you contact to pull funds?**

Answer: Not applicable.

**Question 17: Can I also have that contact email/ number of this person/ department?**

Answer: Not applicable.

**Question 18: Do you require your nurses trained in this way to stay with the Trust for a certain amount of time post course?**

Answer: Yes.

**Question 19: If you do not provide this course/ option do you have any plans to provide this course in the next 2 years?**

Answer: Not applicable.

**Question 20: If you do then when would it start?**

Answer: Not applicable.

**Question 21: If not then why?**

Answer: Not applicable.

**Question 22: If you don't provide this course then how can a band 4 Nurse associate progress to a band 5 nurse within your organisation?**

Answer: The Trust offers the RNDA top-up programme.

**Question 23: How do you expect to retain nurse associates if there is no way to progress to a band 5 in career if you do not provide the course?**

Answer: The Trust offers the RNDA top-up programme.

**Question 24: How else can nurse associate progress in your organisation/ career progress in your organisation?**

Answer: The Trust offers the RNDA top-up programme.

**Question 25: If a nurse associate was able to find an educational provider on their own will you facilitate their start on the course?**



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Answer: The Trust offers the RNDA top-up programme.

**Question 26: Who is your liaison in the organisation for training Nurse Associates to nurses in your organisation?**

Answer: Caroline Ogunsola - Professional Development Lead Nurse.

**Question 27: What is their contact email?**

Answer: Email: [c.ogunsola@nhs.net](mailto:c.ogunsola@nhs.net)



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