

**Information Governance**

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28 November 2023

**Our reference: FOI DA5046**

I am responding to your request for information received 7 November 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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**Interim Chief Executive Officer:** Lorraine Sunduza  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

**Request:**

**Section 1: Medical Locum Expenditure**

**Question 1:** Between 1st April 2023 and 31st October 2023, what did the Trust spend on Agency Medical Locums?

**Clarification:** Include all charges (pay, agency fees, managed service fees, etc.) excluding VAT. All grades, including Consultants.

**Answer:** The Trust's spend on agency locums during this period was £7,032,766.

**Question 1a:** What proportion of this was attributed to the services of a Managed Service Provider (MSP) / Neutral Vendor / Master Vendor and/or Technology Provider?

**Answer:** 88% was attributed to a managed service provider.

**Section 2: MSP & Tech**

**Question 2:** Does the Trust have a Managed Service / MSP (either Neutral Vendor, Master Vendor, or otherwise) and/or technology for managing the supply of agency medics, and/or Direct Engagement?  
If the answer is yes, please answer the following questions:

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question 2a:** Which company provides this solution?

**Clarification:** If there is more than one company involved, for example, if the tech/software is separate from the service provision, please list all contracts that are in place. Other than where an agency is providing managed services or tech, there is no need to list all of the locum agencies involved in the supply chain.

**Answer:** The Trust has reviewed question 2a of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 21(1) of the FOI Act states:  
*(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.*

The information requested is accessible here: Question 2

<https://www.elft.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/ANON%20Response%20-%20FOI%20DA4616.pdf>

The Trust also has a contract with Allocate 24/7 Time (Direct Engagement)

**Question 2b:** Which Framework was this contract / were these contracts procured under?

**Answer:** Workforce Alliance Framework and G Cloud 12 Framework.

**Question 2c:** Please disclose the expiry date(s) of the contract(s)

**Answer:** Pulse InGage – 30 April 2024.  
Allocate 24/7 – 31 October 2027.



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**Question 2d: Please disclose the fee structure and cost of the above-mentioned provisions.**

**Clarification: Excluding all elements of locum doctor pay / the cost of agency locums and excluding the agency commission charges, and excluding VAT.**

Answer: Pulse InGage is a flat 3.5% based on £ value throughout.  
Allocate 247 is charged as £1.20 per worker per hour.

**Question 2e: What percentage of spend on agency medics was processed via a Direct Engagement model during October 2023?**

**Clarification: how much of the agency locum spent during this period benefitted from VAT efficiency via a Direct Engagement provision?**

Answer: 79 percent of the Trust's spend was processed via a direct engagement model.

**Question 2f: What was the average hourly charge rate paid by the Trust for a Locum Consultant between 1<sup>st</sup> August – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023?**

**Clarification: Including pay (and PAYE tax, NI, etc.), and agency fees. Exclude MSP / Tech fees and VAT.**

Answer: The hourly rate of pay for a locum consultant was £133.06.

**Question 2g: What was the maximum charge rate paid for a Locum Consultant between 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023? Please specify the specialty.**

**Clarification: Including pay (and PAYE tax, NI, etc.), and agency fees. Exclude MSP / Tech fees and VAT**

Answer: The maximum charge rate paid for a locum consultant was £171.3. This was for mental health psychiatry.

### **Section 3: Accountable People**

**Question 3: Please provide the name, email address, telephone number, work mobile if applicable, and job title of the person responsible on behalf of the Trust, for the management of the above-mentioned contract(s).**

Answer: Dr. Mohit Venkataram. Executive Director of Commercial Development.  
Email: [mohit.venkataram@nhs.net](mailto:mohit.venkataram@nhs.net)  
Tel: 0207 655 4000

**Question 3a: If different, please also provide the same details of the person or persons accountable for delivering the Trust's strategic objectives in relation to agency medics.**

Answer: Not applicable.



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