



**East London**

NHS Foundation Trust

**Information Governance**

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5 June 2025

**Our reference: FOI DA6009**

I am responding to your request for information received 17 April 2025. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your request. 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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'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality  
of life and continuously improve our services.  
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**Chief Executive Officer:** Lorraine Sunduza  
**Chair:** Eileen Taylor

**Request:**

**Question 1: From 1st January 2025 to 31st March please provide a breakdown of:**

- **Total trust spend with framework agencies for locum AHP/HSS staffing.**

**Answer:** £245,854.65.

**Please provide a further breakdown for locum AHP/HSS staffing by:**

- **Spend per specialty**

**Answer:** Please see table below:

<b>Framework Agency Role for locum AHP/HSS</b>	<b>Agency Expenditure between January 2025 – March 2025 (£)</b>
Occupational Therapist	43,035.71
Other AHP	1,376.32
Pharmacist	28,087.80
Physiotherapist	35,303.87
Podiatrist	25,696.38
Psychologist	44,147.64
Social Worker	24,111.03
Speech & Language Therapist	44,095.90
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>245,854.65</b>

- **Spend per band**
- **Spend per agency name**

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

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—  
(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and  
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust has recently transitioned to a new system and, as a result, does not currently maintain or have access to a centralised and consistently reliable record indicating whether individual bookings were made under a framework agreement. This is further complicated by the existence of multiple frameworks, each allowing for different booking arrangements. Agencies may have been on a framework at the time of booking but subsequently left, or may have joined a framework after the booking occurred. Given these factors, the Trust regrets that it is not in a position to confirm the framework status of specific historical bookings.

**Question 2: From 1st January 2025 to 31st March please provide a breakdown of:**

**Please provide a further breakdown for locum AHP/HSS staffing by:**

- **Spend per band**
- **Spend per specialty**
- **Spend per agency name**



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

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—*  
*(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and*  
*(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust has recently transitioned to a new system and, as a result, does not currently maintain or have access to a centralised and consistently reliable record indicating whether individual bookings were made under a framework agreement. This is further complicated by the existence of multiple frameworks, each allowing for different booking arrangements. Agencies may have been on a framework at the time of booking but subsequently left, or may have joined a framework after the booking occurred. Given these factors, the Trust regrets that it is not in a position to confirm the framework status of specific historical bookings.

**Question 3: From 1st January 2025 to 31st March please provide a breakdown of:**

**Total trust spend with the internal trust bank or associated external provider for locum AHP/HSS staffing**

**Please provide a further breakdown for locum AHP/HSS staffing by:**

- Spend per grade
- Spend per specialty

Answer: Please see table below:

Bank Role for locum AHP/HSS	Bank Expenditure between January 2025 – March 2025 (£)
Bank Chiropodist/Podiatrist	16,676.43
Bank Occupational Therapist Band 6	76,895.49
Bank Occupational Therapist Band 7	15,072.20
Bank Occupational Therapist Band 8	2,944.74
Bank Optometrist Qualified	910.98
Bank Physiotherapist Band 5	271.82
Bank Physiotherapist Band 6	76,200.37
Bank Physiotherapist Band 7	38,314.63
Bank Speech and Language Therapist Band 6	10,217.34
Bank Speech and Language Therapist Band 7	442.41
Occupational Therapist Bank	166,634.56
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>404,580.97</b>

- Spend per internal or associated external provider

Answer: The Trust only uses its internal staff bank for locum AHP/HSS staffing and does not use any external bank providers. Therefore, all the spending shown above relates to the internal bank, and this part of the question does not apply.

**Question 4: Please confirm your allocated budget for agency locum AHP/HSS staffing for the period 1st January 2025 to 31st March**



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Answer: The Trust does not set a dedicated budget for agency staffing, as agency use is only considered when all other staffing options have been explored. To ensure agency spend is kept to a minimum, a range of controls are in place, including oversight and approval at directorate, finance, and executive levels.



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