



Ambulance Headquarters

Bernicia House
The Waterfront
Goldcrest Way
Newburn Riverside
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE15 8NY

Tel: 0191 430 2000
www.neas.nhs.uk

Our Ref: FOI.18.254

Sam Lawrence

E-mail: request-526313-1095a2d3@whatdotheyknow.com

17 October 2018

Dear Mr Lawrence

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information Request

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act which was received on 15 October 2018. I can confirm that we hold part of the information you have requested. You asked the following questions, reproduced in **bold** below:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information on the services the organisation has available with regards to salary loans, salary advances and salary sacrifice schemes for their employees.

Salary Loans

- 1. Does your organisation offer salary loans? - No**
 - a. If so, please state the name of your provider? – N/A**
 - b. When did the trust go live with this service? – N/A**
 - c. When does the contract end with your supplier? – N/A**
 - d. What is the annual cost to the organisation in 17/18? – N/A**
- 2. Which staffing groups access salary loans i.e. nurses, medics, corporate staff etc? – N/A**
- 3. How many employees have signed up to this service? What is the employee split by staffing group? ie. nurses, medics, corporate staff etc. – N/A**
- 4. Does your trust offer financial wellbeing advice? - No**
 - a. If so, please state the name of your provider? – N/A**
 - b. What is the contract start and end dates? – N/A**
 - c. What is the annual cost to the organisation in 17/18? – N/A**

Salary Advances

- 1. Does your organisation offer faster salary payments? i.e. access to salary advances - No**

- a. **If so, please state the name of your provider? – N/A**
- b. **When did the trust go live with this service? – N/A**
- c. **When does the contract end with your supplier? – N/A**
- d. **What is the annual cost to the organisation in 17/18? – N/A**

- 2. **What payment period is offered? ie. daily advances, weekly advances? – N/A**
- 3. **Which staffing groups access the salary advances? – N/A**
- 4. **On average, how many workers access this facility per week and per month? – N/A**
- 5. **What is the cost to the workers to receive salary advancements? – N/A**

Salary Sacrifice

- 6. **Does your organisation offer salary sacrifice schemes? - Yes**
 - a. **If so, please state the name of your provider? – NHS Fleet Solutions - Home Electronics Solution, Cycle Solutions**
 - b. **When did the trust go live with this service? – 2017, 2018**
 - c. **When does the contract end with your supplier? – Ongoing**
 - d. **What is the annual cost to the organisation in 17/18? - Nil**

- 7. **What type of schemes does the organisation offer? ie. car parking, childcare vouchers, technology etc? – Lease cars, electrical goods/phones, cycles**

- 8. **Has the organisation seen an improvement in staff retention or engagement because of the utilisation salary sacrifice schemes? – The Trust does not record or hold any evidence that staff retention has improved due to the salary sacrifice schemes. However, we can confirm that the schemes are well received by staff members.**
 - a. **If yes, please provide further detail – N/A**

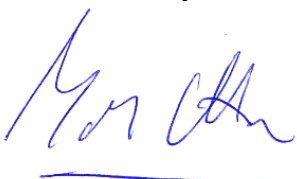
If you are not satisfied with the information we have provided, you can request an internal review which will be carried out by Mr Paul Aitken-Fell, who is the Trust's Consultant Paramedic and is someone not involved with your original request.

If you wish to follow this route, please contact audrey.turnbull@neas.nhs.uk who will commence the process on your behalf.

If you remain unhappy with the outcome of the review, you can ultimately complain to:

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

Yours sincerely



Mark Cotton
Freedom of Information Lead