

Dyddiad/Date: 9th March 2011

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† FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

Corporate Administration ABM Headquarters 1 Talbot Gateway Baglan Port Talbot SA12 7BR

Dear Ms Harrison-Bradley

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on the 18th February 2011. Your request sought information relating to the total agency spend for the period January 2010 to December 2010.

Allied Health Professionals Our finance systems are not able to separate out this

particular staff group therefore I am unable to provide

this information.

Nursing Staff £3,125,834 (to provide some context, this figure is

1.46% of ABMU Health Boards total nursing and

midwifery spend).

Social Care Staff Nil

You will be aware that the Health Board has a Nurse Bank and this is the first option for all additional staffing needs. Over the winter months it has been necessary to introduce additional capacity in terms of bed numbers due to the increased number of patient admissions and as such, there has been a need to source additional staffing at short notice. It has therefore been necessary to engage agency staff at such times in order to continue to provide safe clinical services at times of peak demand. The Health Board has also been working with Universities to seek to recruit nurses who are about to qualify and others to join its nurse bank. The Health Board also has robust recruitment processes in place ensuring that we are able to recruit to our vacancies efficiently and in so doing reduce any the spend on agency staff.

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain

about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (Tel 01625 545 745, Fax 01625 524510)

Yours sincerely

Steve Combe

Board Secretary