

Informatics Directorate
Freedom of Information Officer
Old Nurses Home
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Southampton
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Tel: 023 8120 5079

To: Ben Fallon (via email only) [request-517729-62a009e1@whatdotheyknow.com]

Ref: Freedom of Information Request

Our Ref: FOI 5522

Date: 20th September 2018

Dear Ben,

I am writing in response to your email dated 4th September 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) regarding direct engagement.

Q1 *What framework agreement/s do you use for the supply of Allied Health Professionals (AHP) and Medical Locums? E.g. HTE , CCS*

A1 **HTE**

Q2 *Does your organisation use a Direct Engagement scheme?
If so, who provides it?*

A2 **Yes, 247Time**

Q3 *If so, When did you start using Direct Engagement?*

A3 **The Trust started using 247 Time in April 2014**

Q4 *What has been your total agency staffing spend since you started using the scheme?
If this cannot be easily calculated, what has been the total agency staffing spend in the last financial year?*

A4 **Medical and AHP agency for 17/18 = £3.693m**

Q5 *How much has been paid to the third party direct engagement facilitator so far?*

A5 **We can confirm that this information is held by the Trust but we consider it to be exempt from disclosure under section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000: commercial interest. This exemption can be applied when it is felt that disclosure of information would or could prejudice commercial interests. The Trust is in favour of withholding the information since it is in the public interest**

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for the Trust to contract on commercial terms and for third parties not to fear that the Trust will disclose commercially sensitive information which could affect their confidence to enter into contracts with the Trust, thus the Trust would potentially be at a disadvantage in negotiating future agreements for these services reducing our ability to achieve the best possible overall agreements for the Trust and, ultimately, the care of our patients.

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request will be held on a database held by the Trust.

With regards,

Freedom of Information Officer

University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust

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