

FOI 2894

21st February 2025

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

- 1. Could you please provide the contact details for the procurement officer responsible for international recruitment within the trust? For Doctors, Nurses and AHP**

Response:

Business Services Organisation (BSO) lead on international recruitment for the 5 Northern Ireland HSC Trusts for all professional groups. You can contact them at the following email address: FOI.BSO@hscni.net

- 2. Outside of Procurement who is the Senior Officer Responsible for International Recruitment for Nurse, Doctors, AHP? and their Contact details?**

Response:

This is also handled by BSO. Please see the response to question 1.

- 3. Additionally, what is the budget allocated for international recruitment for the financial year 2025/26 for Nurse, Doctors, AHP? Who is the responsible officer to allocate this budget?**

Response:

- No International recruitment is anticipated for 25/26 therefore there will be no corresponding budget for Doctors, Nurses and AHPs.
- Funding will be sought from Department of Health to support costs associated with future regional international recruitment exercises if required.

- 4. Current Vacancies at the trust per Specialty: General Nurse/ Mental Health Nurses/ AHP/ Doctors**

Response:

- Please refer to the latest vacancy return available at the Department of Health: [Staff vacancies | Department of Health \(www.health-ni.gov.uk/articles/staff-vacancies\)](http://www.health-ni.gov.uk/articles/staff-vacancies)

5. During the financial year 2023/24, which international recruitment partners did the trust use, if any? Who are they planning to use for 2025/26? Who is the responsible officer who decides this?

**Response:
Medical Staff**

- The agency partner for international medical recruitment is Remedium Partners Limited (contract in place until August 2025). If there are any requirements for post-August 2025, suppliers from the appropriate Lot on the HSC approved International Recruitment Framework will be engaged. The responsible officers for making this decision are Dr Stephen Austin (Medical Director) and Mrs Vivienne Toal Human Resources and Organisational Development Director.

Nursing

- During the financial year 2023/24 the SHSCT recruited internationally educated nurses via BSO from the HSC approved International Recruitment Framework partners including TTM and CCS.
- For 2025/26 SHSCT has no plans to avail of regional international recruitment – If there are any requirements for 2025/26, suppliers from the appropriate Lot on the HSC approved International Recruitment Framework will be engaged, with the responsible officers for making this decision Mrs Grace Hamilton Assistant Director Nursing and Midwifery, Workforce and Education & Mrs Dawn Ferguson Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery, AHP.
- Regionally a procurement exercise is due to begin to establish a new International recruitment framework from 25/26 with the decisions taken by the regional Contract Adjudication Group.

AHP

- International Recruitment not progressed in trust to date.

6. How many international Doctors/Nurse/AHP did the trust receive in the financial year 2023/24?

**Response:
Medical Staff**

- Between April 23 – March 24 SHSCT received 59 doctors via the Trust's International Medical Recruitment Project (Remedium)
- Between April 23 – March 24 20 doctors were recruited through local recruitment processes.

Nursing

- Between April 23 – March 24 SHSCT received 46 nurses via the regional international nursing recruitment campaign.



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AHP

- Between April 23 – March 24 4 AHP (Physiotherapists) were recruited through local recruitment processes.

7. What was the international recruitment spend bifurcated by Doctors/Nurses/AHP by the trust for the financial year 23/24?

Response:

The international recruitment spend for 23/24 was as follows:

- Medical - £1m
- Nursing - £1.1m
- AHP - Nil

Email: Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net