

FOI 3420

18<sup>th</sup> November 2025

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

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**I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act regarding Temporary Staff Management. Please can you complete the below questions.**

### **NON-MEDICAL RESPONSE**

#### Sourced Staffing Arrangements

**1a. Do you have a master vendor (MV) or neutral vendor (NV) arrangement in place for sourcing agency staff?**

**If so, please state which arrangement is in place**

**Response:**

No

**1b. What is the name of the MV/NV provider(s) and what staffing groups do they source? e.g. medical, nursing etc.**

**Response:**

N/A

**1c. As part of the arrangement, is any NV technology provided by the supplier to help manage the procurement of agency staff?**

**Response:**

N/A

**1d. Please provide the contract start and end date for the supplier (dd/mm/yy)**

**Response:**

N/A

#### Direct Engagement

**2a. Does the organisation use a third party to provide a Direct Engagement/Outsourced Employment Solution\*?**

**Response:**  
No

**2b. What is the name of the Direct Engagement (DE)/Outsourced Employment supplier\*\***

**Response:**  
N/A

**2c. Under the DE/Outsourced Employment arrangement, which staffing groups are managed? For example; Medical, Admin, Scientific staff. Please list all applicable**

**Response:**  
N/A

**2d. Please provide the contract start and end date for the DE supplier (dd/mm/yy)**

**Response:**  
N/A

**2e. How much did the organisation pay the supplier in 24/25 (April 2024 to March 2025) for the provision of the direct engagement service?**

**Response:**  
N/A

**2f. What type of Direct Engagement contract is in place between the trust and the worker? E.g. Fixed term, casual, zero hours etc.**

**Response:**  
N/A

**2g. Are workers issued a P45 at the end of their assignment?**

**Response:**  
N/A

**2h. Does your DE provider process DE payroll?**

**Response:**  
N/A

**2i. If not, who is responsible for processing DE payroll?**

**Response:**

N/A

**2j. Who is responsible for inputting timesheet data into your DE solution?**

Response:

N/A

**2k. Who is responsible for inputting workers' bank details into the DE solution?**

**Response:**

N/A

#### Bank Management

**3a. Please name the technology provider used to manage the supply of your bank staff, inclusive of any outsourced or managed arrangements \*\*\* If more than one supplier is used, please name all suppliers**

**Response:**

The name of our provider is exempt from disclosure and Section 31 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied. Although the Southern Trust understands that there is a public interest in being open and transparent, the information requested has the potential to leave the Trust vulnerable to cyber-attacks. By disclosing these details, this information could prejudice and compromise the Trust's network/IT security.

In accordance with Section 31 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Law enforcement – the prevention or detection of crime, states that information is exempt if its disclosure is likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. ICO guidance states that this can be used to protect information on a public authority's systems which would make it more vulnerable to crime. It can be used by a public authority that has no law enforcement function:

- To protect the work of one that does
- To withhold information that would make anyone, including the public authority itself, more vulnerable to crime

We believe that putting this information into the public domain would make the Trust more vulnerable to cyber-attacks. The public interest in maintaining the security of our systems and providing safe health and social care to our patients/clients outweighs the public interest in disclosure of this information.

**3b. Please name the staffing group each provider is used for e.g. medical, nursing, AHPs, admin and clerical**

**Response:**

Nursing & midwifery – registered and unregistered

**3c. Please provide the contract start and end date for each bank supplier (dd/mm/yy)**

**Response:**

01.01.2024 – 21.12.2028

**3d. How much did the organisation pay the supplier(s) in 24/25 for the provision of the bank service?**

**Response:**

The organisation pay for this service across 2 service departments bank service and health roster.

In order to provide and verify this information a significant trawl of records is required. The cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. In order to obtain this information, it would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Public Authorities are not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit.

*\*This is where the NHS organisation sources agency staff via a recruitment agency but hold a direct contract between the organisation and the worker - there is often VAT savings associated to this employment model*

*\*\* e.g Allocate/RL Datix, PlusUs, Retinue, Liaison, NHS Professionals, Agile Workforce/Holt, Litmus/Medacs etc*

*\*\*\*i.e. NHSP, Bank Partners, RL Datix/Allocate, Liaison, Patchwork, Locum's Nest etc*

**MEDICAL STAFF RESPONSE**

**1. Sourced Staffing Arrangements**

**1a. Do you have a master vendor (MV) or neutral vendor (NV) arrangement in place for sourcing agency staff?**

**If so, please state which arrangement is in place**

**Response:**

No, we currently do not have a master vendor (MV) or neutral vendor (NV) arrangement in place for sourcing agency staff.

**1b. What is the name of the MV/NV provider(s) and what staffing groups do they source? e.g. medical, nursing etc.**

**Response:**

N/A

**1c. As part of the arrangement, is any NV technology provided by the supplier to help manage the procurement of agency staff?**

**Response:**

N/A

**1d. Please provide the contract start and end date for the supplier (dd/mm/yy)**

**Response:**

N/A

## **2. Direct Engagement**

**2a. Does the organisation use a third party to provide a Direct Engagement/Outsourced Employment Solution\*?**

**Response:**

No, we do not use third party to provide Direct Engagement/ Outsources Employment Solution.

**2b. What is the name of the Direct Engagement (DE)/Outsourced Employment supplier\*\***

**Response:**

N/A

**2c. Under the DE/Outsourced Employment arrangement, which staffing groups are managed? For example, Medical, Admin, Scientific staff. Please list all applicable**

Response:  
N/A

**2d. Please provide the contract start and end date for the DE supplier (dd/mm/yy)**

Response:  
N/A

**2e. How much did the organisation pay the supplier in 24/25 (April 2024 to March 2025) for the provision of the direct engagement service?**

Response:  
N/A

**2f. What type of Direct Engagement contract is in place between the trust and the worker? E.g. Fixed term, casual, zero hours etc.**

Response:  
N/A

**2g. Are workers issued a P45 at the end of their assignment?**

Response:  
N/A

**2h. Does your DE provider process DE payroll?**

Response:  
N/A

**2i. If not, who is responsible for processing DE payroll?**

Response:  
N/A

**2j. Who is responsible for inputting timesheet data into your DE solution?**

Response:  
N/A

**2k. Who is responsible for inputting workers' bank details into the DE solution?**

**Response:**

N/A

**3. Bank Management**

**3a. Please name the technology provider used to manage the supply of your bank staff, inclusive of any outsourced or managed arrangements \*\*\* If more than one supplier is used, please name all suppliers.**

**Response:**

The Trust currently use HSC eLocums to support its staff bank for medical doctors.

**3b. Please name the staffing group each provider is used for e.g. medical, nursing, AHPs, admin and clerical**

**Response:**

Medical

**3c. Please provide the contract start and end date for each bank supplier (dd/mm/yy)**

**Response:**

HSC eLocums is owned by HSC and there is no contract end.

**3d. How much did the organisation pay the supplier(s) in 24/25 for the provision of the bank service?**

**Response:**

N/A

*\*This is where the NHS organisation sources agency staff via a recruitment agency but hold a direct contract between the organisation and the worker - there is often VAT savings associated to this employment model*

*\*\* e.g. Allocate/RL Datix, PlusUs, Retinue, Liaison, NHS Professionals, Agile Workforce/Holt, Litmus/Medacs etc*

*\*\*\*i.e. NHSP, Bank Partners, RL Datix/Allocate, Liaison, Patchwork, Locum's Nest etc*

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