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NG17 4JL

15th April 2025

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[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000 - Request for Information Reference: Agency
Staff or Insourcing arrangements for Theatres

I am writing in response to your request for information under the FOI 2000.

I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

Home, Community, Hospital.

FOI Request / Question	Question Response													
1. Over the last 12 months, broken down to weekly figures, can you detail: The weekly hours covered by Agency staff, the hourly rates being charged, the names of the agencies used		Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Grand Total
	Surgery													
	Critical Care	£1,167.76	£4,383.83	£2,135.53	£2,477.02	£547.49		£386.79	£360.92	£2,892.16	£1,127.68	£15,917.95	£4,448.13	£35,845.26
	ENT	£23,827.77	£32,007.29	£26,411.83	£43,594.39	£52,785.34	£46,531.81	£51,730.38	£28,566.47	£26,980.56	£37,287.23	£28,069.19	£16,518.76	£414,311.02
	General Surgery	£22,896.60	£17,999.68	£9,866.41	£4,655.08	£16,644.98	£1,623.29	£3,401.29	£13,827.79	£10,956.89	£16,966.63	£22,985.20	£12,697.80	£154,521.64
	Ophthalmology	£41,246.74	£19,280.73	£426.40	£4,797.33	£49,448.73	£15,923.39	£22,039.03	£50,890.28	£10,891.37	£15,507.48	£9,916.66	£51,796.05	£292,164.19
	Theatres, Anaesthetics & Pain	£85,421.03	£79,996.06	£77,719.69	£86,078.91	£88,819.22	£98,953.03	£87,612.51	£84,541.47	£93,837.05	£109,328.00	£83,439.62	£105,822.81	£1,081,569.40
	Trauma & Orthopaedics	£35,964.41	£45,314.74	£35,998.28	£23,153.27	£23,593.97	£27,155.26	£15,845.47	£9,093.49	£9,523.54	£8,842.18	£6,834.61	£2,674.76	£243,993.98
	Urology	£746.64				£1,514.70	£28,354.53	£19,969.54	£46,050.51	£21,331.86	£16,824.15	£13,500.87	£4,980.26	£153,273.06
	Breast Surgery	£614.16							£300.68	£505.40				£1,420.24
Max Fax												£7,120.44	£7,120.44	
	Grand Total													£2,384,219.23
	In relation to the request for “The weekly hours covered by Agency staff, the hourly rates being charged, the names of the agencies used.”													
	Whilst the Trust holds the further breakdown of information as requested, it is applying a Section 43(2) exemption in relation to this part of the request as the release of the information is likely to prejudice its commercial interests.													
	In applying the exemption consideration has been given to the public interest in enabling scrutiny of public sector decision making and the general public interest in accountability and transparency.													
	We have concluded providing the information could cause harm to the Trust as this could distort the market-place and therefore, result in the Trust not obtaining best value for money.													

	In this instance, we consider that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the public interest in disclosing the information.
2. Where Insourcing is being utilised, can you detail: The name of the Insourcing supplier, The work being provided, cost of the service & the savings being made against the NHS Payment Unit price, Tariff codes are associated with the work	<p>Anaesthetists - ID Medical, to aid Theatre throughput. ENT Day Case - ID Medical, to aid Theatre throughput,</p> <p>Costs / savings</p> <p>Section 43</p> <p>It is our opinion that the information sought in relation to costs is exempt from disclosure pursuant to section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). S43(2) relates to information that is exempt from disclosure that could have a detrimental effect on the commercial interests of "...any person." The Trust considers that at this time the commercial interests of the Trust, third parties and overall the NHS could be detrimentally impacted upon. Please see the public interest test below.</p> <p>Public Interest Test</p> <p>We recognise that the disclosure of the information sought in relation to the costs involved would provide transparency in the use of public funds by the Trust and the NHS in general. It would also assist the general populous with transparency in decision making by the Trust and their transactions with third parties.</p> <p>Conversely to the factors demonstrated above in favour of disclosure, it is felt that the Trust, third party suppliers and overall the NHS could be disadvantaged should the information sought in relation to costs being made available. Suppliers compete with one another in a competitive environment and to provide the value of the costs involved may allow rival companies to undercut the Trust current suppliers, lead to loss of confidence by suppliers and customers and could cause significant harm and disadvantage to the Trust and suppliers.</p>

	<p>The disclosure could also adversely impact on any on-going or future procurement processes for the reasons outlined above. Any disclosure by the Trust could also in future discourage the provision of commercially sensitive information necessary to respond properly to the Trusts Invitation To Tender, and would be likely to affect and undermine the Trusts bargaining position in any future procurement process or negotiations. Ultimately civil action could be taken against the Trust should information be disclosed that adversely affects the commercial interests of current and/or future suppliers.</p> <p>As a result, it is in the Trust's opinion that this sufficiently demonstrates the prejudice which could be caused through disclosure.</p> <p>Balance Test</p> <p>It is important to bear in mind that any disclosure under the FOI Act is a disclosure to the public at large and not just to the applicant. It is recognised that there is a general public interest in the Trust being open and transparent. However, it is not believed that this public interest is served in disclosure for damage that would be caused as outlined above.</p> <p>Therefore, – the Trust considers that releasing this information would not be in the public interest, as the public interest does not outweigh the prejudice as set out above. Further guidance can be accessed from the Information Commissioner's Office https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guidance-index/freedom-of-information-and-environmental-information-regulations/section-43-commercial-interests/</p>
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I trust this information answers your request. Should you have any further enquiries or queries about this response please do not hesitate to contact me. However, if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Sally Brook Shanahan, Director of Corporate Affairs, King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield Road, Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 4JL or email sally.brookshanahan@nhs.net.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office, who will consider whether we have complied with our obligations under the Act and can require us to remedy any problems. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot decide unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 1231113, email casework@ico.org.uk.

If you would like this letter or information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call us on 01623 672232 or email sfh-tr.foi.requests@nhs.net.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance Team

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.