

Ref. No: 0702
Date: 16/02/24
Subject: Agency Usage (Off-Framework)

REQUEST

1. How many RGN / RMN shifts have been filled using an “Off Framework” Agency between December 1st 2023, and February 1st 2024.
2. Which “Off Framework” Nursing agencies have been used by the Trust between December 1st 2023, and February 1st 2024.
3. A breakdown of shifts filled by each “Off Framework” agency between December 1st 2023, and February 1st 2024. E.g. 3 RMN Shifts and 5 RGN shifts were filled by X agency.
4. The total cost for each individual “Off Framework” nursing agency between December 1st 2023, and February 1st 2024.

RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust became a single legal entity known as Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust on 1st July 2023, as such parts of the response may be provided in two sections relating to the hospital sites of each of the legacy organisations.

1. How many RGN / RMN shifts have been filled using an “Off Framework” Agency between December 1st 2023, and February 1st 2024.

76 shifts were filled by off-framework agency in this time period.

2. Which “Off Framework” Nursing agencies have been used by the Trust between December 1st 2023, and February 1st 2024.

Just OH and Thornbury Nursing Services.

- 3. A breakdown of shifts filled by each “Off Framework” agency between December 1st 2023, and February 1st 2024. E.g. 3 RMN Shifts and 5 RGN shifts were filled by X agency.**

42 x RN shifts were filled by Just OH.

34 x RN shifts were filled by Thornbury Nursing Services.

- 4. The total cost for each individual “Off Framework” nursing agency between December 1st 2023, and February 1st 2024.**

Section 12: cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit

To provide a response to this question, we would need to undertake a manual review of invoices due to the manner in which the requested data is stored. Resultantly, the Trust estimates that providing a response to this question would exceed the appropriate time limit.

Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust does not have to comply with a request where it is estimated that the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit of £450. The appropriate limit is specified within the regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2½ working days answering the request, either wholly or partially.