

Ref. No: 0788  
Date: 13/03/24  
Subject: Agency Services (Ethics)

## REQUEST

1. Does the Trust have a Managed Service (MSP) or MV or an external bank supplier for the recruitment of agency staff? Please break this down into Doctors, Nursing & AHP if appropriate.
2. If yes, who is that contract with and when does it end?
3. If yes, how did the Trust review whether the supplier followed ethical business practices, what ethical insights did they gather?
4. What steps do the Trust take to ensure suppliers are paying their fair share of taxes and acting with integrity.
5. Who is responsible within the Trust, for ensuring that suppliers follow ethical business practices?

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Does the Trust have a Managed Service (MSP) or MV or an external bank supplier for the recruitment of agency staff? Please break this down into Doctors, Nursing & AHP if appropriate.

St Helens and Knowsley:

N/A - no Managed Service / Master Vendor.

Southport and Ormskirk:

Managed Service covering Nursing, AHPs and A&C.

**2. If yes, who is that contract with and when does it end?**

St Helens and Knowsley:

N/A

Southport and Ormskirk:

Managed Service is through NHS Professionals, end date 31/07/2024.

**3. If yes, how did the Trust review whether the supplier followed ethical business practices, what ethical insights did they gather?**

St Helens and Knowsley:

N/A

Southport and Ormskirk:

Procured through the TWS2 Framework, which is managed by HTE, suppliers are evaluated as part of the tendering process.

**4. What steps do the Trust take to ensure suppliers are paying their fair share of taxes and acting with integrity.**

As above, evaluation of potential and current suppliers would be managed by the framework provider.

**5. Who is responsible within the Trust, for ensuring that suppliers follow ethical business practices?**

No specific role, variable responsibility dependent on the product / services they cover.