

Ref. No: 1324  
Date: 06/11/24  
Subject: Trust expenditure on doctor recruitment

## REQUEST

I'd like to obtain information in relation to Trust expenditure on doctor recruitment through external agencies during the 2023/24 financial year and 2024/25 financial year to date (05/11/24), via the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

1. How much did the Trust spend on agency locum doctors during the 2023/24 financial year? Can you please provide a breakdown of how much was spent per grade of doctor, specialty of doctor and the number of total hours booked in each specialty
2. Can you please name which agencies provided the locum doctors relevant to the answer to my previous question (question 1) and the number of hours each agency provided?
3. How much did the Trust spend on agency fees/costs when recruiting doctors to fixed term or permanent contracts via external agency during each period (i.e. where an introductory fee was charged)? Can you please provide a breakdown of how much was spent per grade of doctor, specialty of doctor and the number of doctors successfully deployed.
4. Can you please name which agencies provided the work/doctors outlined in question 3 and how many doctors each one has successfully provided to the Trust?
5. Has the Trust conducted any overseas trips since 2022 to conduct recruitment activities for doctors? If yes, please state how much was spent on each separate visit, which agency was partnered with (if any) and how many doctors were successfully hired (and started in post at the hospital) as a result of each visit.

## RESPONSE

1. **How much did the Trust spend on agency locum doctors during the 2023/24 financial year? Can you please provide a breakdown of how much was spent per grade of doctor, specialty of doctor and the number of total hours booked in each specialty**

Doctor Grade	Doctor Speciality	Total
Agency Consultants	ACUTE MEDICINE	- 413,124
	CARDIOLOGY	- 567,019
	CORPORATE	18,672
	DEPT OF MEDICINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE	- 1,454,513
	DERMATOLOGY	- 434,947
	EMERGENCY SERVICES	- 174,706
	ENT	- 277,039
	GASTROENTEROLOGY	- 729,494
	GENERAL MEDICINE	- 349,365
	HAEMATOLOGY	- 240,642
	HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR	- 260,875
	OBSTETRICS AND GYNAE	- 11,483
	OPHTHALMOLOGY	11,809
	PAEDIATRICS	- 258,679
	PATHOLOGY	- 755,969
	RADIOLOGY	- 188,303
	RHEUMATOLOGY	- 435,716
	STROKE MEDICINE	- 216,479
	THEATRES AND ANAESTHESIA	- 580,989
<b>Agency Consultants Total</b>		<b>- 7,318,858</b>
Agency Junior Doctor FY1	DEPT OF MEDICINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE	- 62,549
	GENERAL SURGERY	- 8,322
<b>Agency Junior Doctor FY1 Total</b>		<b>- 70,872</b>
Agency Junior Doctor FY2	ACUTE MEDICINE	- 26,970
	BURNS AND PLASTIC SURGERY	- 94,220
	DEPT OF MEDICINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE	- 56,504
	EMERGENCY SERVICES	- 297,692
	ENT	- 92,913
	GENERAL MEDICINE	- 73,574
	GENERAL SURGERY	- 140,104
	MED AND UC MGT	- 152,541
	OBSTETRICS AND GYNAE	- 54,321
	PAEDIATRICS	- 31,079
	TRAUMA AND ORTHOPAEDICS	- 2,814
	UROLOGY	- 11,962
<b>Agency Junior Doctor FY2 Total</b>		<b>- 1,034,693</b>
Agency Junior Doctor ST1	BURNS AND PLASTIC SURGERY	6,368
	ENT	- 7,213
<b>Agency Junior Doctor ST1 Total</b>		<b>- 845</b>
Agency Junior Doctor ST3	BURNS AND PLASTIC SURGERY	- 42,867
	DEPT OF MEDICINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE	- 163,822
	EMERGENCY SERVICES	- 137,217
	ENT	- 81,799
	GENERAL SURGERY	- 92,443
	MED AND UC MGT	- 31,199
	OBSTETRICS AND GYNAE	- 109,301
	OPHTHALMOLOGY	- 48,051
	ORTHODONTIC AND ORAL SURGERY	- 66,233
	PAEDIATRICS	17
	TRAUMA AND ORTHOPAEDICS	16,694
	UROLOGY	- 47,063
<b>Agency Junior Doctor ST3 Total</b>		<b>- 803,285</b>
Agency Other Medical	CORPORATE	- 11,336
	EMERGENCY SERVICES	- 2,659
	GENERAL MEDICINE	- 665
	GENERAL SURGERY	- 290,115
	OBSTETRICS AND GYNAE	- 69,469
	OPHTHALMOLOGY	- 101,441
	PAEDIATRICS	- 32,287
	THEATRES AND ANAESTHESIA	- 241,677
<b>Agency Other Medical Total</b>		<b>- 749,649</b>
Agency SHO'S & HO'S	CORPORATE	- 4,078
	DEPT OF MEDICINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE	- 6,863
	EMERGENCY SERVICES	5,667
	ENT	- 520
	GENERAL MEDICINE	17,733
	GENERAL SURGERY	- 451
	OBSTETRICS AND GYNAE	2,863
	PAEDIATRICS	- 1,555
<b>Agency SHO'S &amp; HO'S Total</b>		<b>12,795</b>
Agency Specialist Registrars	CORPORATE	1,659
	PATHOLOGY	- 610
	THEATRES AND ANAESTHESIA	- 41,470
<b>Agency Specialist Registrars Total</b>		<b>- 40,421</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>- 10,005,827</b>

- 3. How much did the Trust spend on agency fees/costs when recruiting doctors to fixed term or permanent contracts via external agency during each period (i.e. where an introductory fee was charged)? Can you please provide a breakdown of how much was spent per grade of doctor, specialty of doctor and the number of doctors successfully deployed.**

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.