

**Information Governance**  
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Ref: FOI2019/5674

Date Received: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Response Due: 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019

10<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear

## **INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

### **You asked:**

**Could the Trust please provide information on how much has been spent on agency nurses?**

- 1) 2019/20 financial year to date**
- 2) 2018/19 financial year**
- 3) 2017/18 financial year**

Please visit the following link: <http://www.wwl.nhs.uk/foi/FAQ.aspx>

**Are these amounts higher, lower or within the budgets allocated for agency staff?**

In both completed financial years, actual agency spend was higher than the budget.

**Are there any measures being implemented to lower the reliance or use of agency staff?**

- Consideration by the Executive team of a nurse incentive scheme which encourages staff to undertake additional shifts;
- Local Pay Variations in exceptional circumstances where bank take up is low;
- Reconsideration and refresh of rates offered to nursing staff on NHSP bank to be more competitive and increase take up;
- Ongoing recruitment of nurses via recruitment fairs etc.;
- Development of nurse career pathways and apprenticeships to enable individuals to take an alternative route into nursing;

- Ongoing consideration and plans for international recruitment;
- NHSP marketing campaigns to further build the bank; and
- Engage with support from the NHS Improvement National Agency team.

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Foster  
Chief Executive

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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF