



Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Trust Headquarters
Chief Nurse

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Ref: FOI/2024/9836

Date Received: 7th May 2024

Response Due: 5th June 2024

Date: 20th May 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 7th May 2024, 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.

In your request you asked:

- 1. Since December 2023, which Nurses Shifts has the Trust struggled to fill? Please consider the following Specialities for this question: A&E Nurses, NICU, ICU, Midwives, Paediatric Nurses & General Nurses?**
A&E Nurses.
- 2. Do approved Framework agencies approve or confirm Shifts directly with the matron Nurses or any senior nurses directly in the wards with the agencies (Within any of the wards)? If, yes which wards book Nurses directly with the agencies & please provide these Nurses Full names?**
All requests for nursing and midwifery staff are completed via e-roster and sent to the NHSP platform or booked directly via the NHSP platform.
- 3. When does Temporary Staffing get approval for "Escalated rates" for Ad-hoc Shifts? Please provide time scale leading up to the Shift date**
The Trust has approved escalated pay rates within the following areas: A&E, Paediatrics, Neonatal Services, Critical Care and Maternity. Ad hoc shifts are usually associated with the requirements for short notice leave (e.g., sickness or unplanned leave). These shifts are requested via e-roster/NHSP and escalated to Matron who will authorise release of the shift. Lead times vary from 3 hours to 12 hours.

4. When does Temporary Staffing get approval for “Escalated rates” for long term Agency Nurse Bookings? Please provide time scale leading up to the booking?

All long-term agency rates paid are in line with the agency cap.

5. Who in the trust has the authority to approve the use of Escalated rates or break glass rate for the Approval Framework agencies, Please provide Full Name & Email address?

Escalated rates are approved by the Vacancy Control Panel chaired by the Chief People Officer, Juliette Tait. As a Trust we only utilise framework agencies with rates that are compliant with the NHSE agency cap.

6. Please provide names of those agencies that are “breaching NHSI Rates” by being allowed to book Nurses & Midwives not within the NHSI capped rates?

There has been no off-framework agency utilisation.

7. If an Approved framework agency can demonstrate their ability to provide Nurses & meet all the requirement with the possibility of using the alternative route of escalated or Break Glass rates, would Temporary staffing add that agency to their Tier 1 Suppliers list?

Please see the response to question 5.

8. Who is the head of Procurement responsible for approving “Approved Framework agencies” to join their Tier 1 Suppliers list to provide Nurses & Midwives? Please provide Full name & contact address email?

Alistair Nicholson

The Trust does not routinely give out email addresses and direct telephone numbers of staff members, as large numbers of unsolicited emails/telephone calls, could cause disruption by blocking email accounts/telephone lines thus preventing true work-related emails/calls from being delivered. However, any of the above staff can be contacted via main switchboard on 01942 244000.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



KEVIN PARKER-EVANS

Kevin Parker-Evans MBA, FCMJ, CMgr. RN Dip HE

Interim Chief Nurse & Director of Infection Prevention and Control

PLEASE NOTE:

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, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111