



East London

**NHS Foundation Trust
Information Governance**

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25 October 2024

Our reference: FOI DA5581

I am responding to your request for information received 04 September 2024. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your request. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Coordinator

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113
Web: www.ico.org.uk

Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention



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Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request: I am writing to make an official request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I seek details regarding the use of off framework agency by your trust for locum doctors and would like to request the following information:

Question 1: Do you currently have psychiatry locums working in your Trust?

Answer: Yes. The Trust currently employs psychiatry locums.

Question 2: How many locums are working in your Trust?

Answer: The Trust currently employs one Work Time Equivalent (WTE) locum.

Question 3: What grades/specialities?

Answer: Consultant.

Question 4: What is the highest charge rate you are paying?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 4 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 40 for the FOI Act states:

(2) This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK GDPR.

The information you have requested relates to less than five individuals and has the potential for those individuals to be identified. The Trust is therefore unable to provide this information in detail.

Question 5: What is the average charge rate?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 5 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 40 for the FOI Act states:

(2) This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK GDPR.

The information you have requested relates to less than five individuals and has the potential for those individuals to be identified. The Trust is therefore unable to provide this information in detail.

Question 6: Do you have off framework agencies you work with?

Answer: Yes. The Trust works with off-framework agencies.

Question 7: How many locums work via off framework agencies?

Answer: One WTE locum consultant is currently employed through an off-framework agency.

Question 8: What is the process for off framework agency bookings?

Answer: The process is that, once the Trust has identified a gap and has been unsuccessful in recruiting substantively or via our bank, we would consult agencies on our preferred supplier list (PSL) first.



If agencies on our PSL, who are all on frameworks, are unable to provide staff, then we would contact our secondary tier of off-framework agencies that we have worked with successfully in the past.

In order for these agencies to join our secondary tier list, they must be assessed by both the Trust's temporary staffing and procurement teams. This means they must propose their engagement terms, they must review and accept the Trust's key terms, review and sign off on a declaration of interest form, have due diligence undertaken to ensure they are of sound financial health, and their appointment is subject to approval by our executive team.

Once these steps have been completed and the agency is successful, then a rate is negotiated with the agency before an engagement is agreed to and the agency introduces the candidate to the Trust to be interviewed. Costs only become payable if the candidate is appointed by the Trust, with no payments due before the candidate commences in post.

Question 9: Who is the decision maker for off framework agency bookings?

Answer: Tanya Carter, Chief People Officer.



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