

## Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB\_256\_22

### You asked:

I am writing to you to ask for information under FOI Act 2000 relating to the use of Resident Medical Officers [RMOs] also referred to as Resident Doctors and/or Senior House Officers [SHOs] supplied by agencies to your trust.

Please provide the following information:

**1. Does the Health Board use or has the Health Board ever used RMOs supplied by agencies?**

Yes.

**2. If so, how many are being used currently? If you can't answer this, could you please tell us how many contracted hours do RMOs provide for the trust per month or per year?**

As at 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022 43 RMOs are currently being used.

**3. How many hours would an RMO be working in any given week and any given month? What is their shift pattern?**

It varies with each engagement.

**4. What are the departments within the trust where RMOs work (for example orthopaedic, mental health, general medicine, surgery etc).**

Acute Care  
Acute Medicine  
Acute Surgery  
Emergency Medicine  
General Medicine  
Mental Health  
Womens & Childrens

**5. How much does the Health Board pay to NES Healthcare Ltd (or any other NES company within NES Holdings (UK) Limited group) per hour per RMO? Please ideally break this down by grade and if it's not possible tell us the average rate.**

The average rate is £69.94 per hour (charge rate).

**6. If the Health Board receives RMOs from agencies other than NES Healthcare Ltd please tell us the names of those agencies and rates paid to each per RMO per hour.**

We can confirm that the Health Board holds information relating to the requested agencies and rates paid. However, we would like to advise you that the information you requested is being withheld under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The exemption which the Health Board has applied to this information is: Section (43)(2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Health Board considers the information to be of a commercially sensitive nature and that the release of this information would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any parties concerned.

The University Health Board accepts that there is a public interest in ensuring openness and transparency however, the Health Board believes that disclosure of information in a manner which fails to protect the interests and relationships arising in a commercial context could have the effect of discouraging companies from dealing with the Health Board because of fears that the disclosure of information could damage them commercially. In turn this could then jeopardise the Health Boards ability to compete fairly and pursue its function to bring forward development in the area and obtain value for money.

However, we can confirm that the contract was awarded under the CCS Framework which in turn was procured in line with PCR 2015.

**7. What was the Health Board's total spend on RMOs in 2020, 2021 and 2022? Please break this down by agencies suppling RMOs.**

This data is not held by specific grade of staff by the Health Board. However, the total Medical & Dental Agency spend for the period is shown below:

	£'000
2020 -	15,798
2021 -	13,377
2022 Jan – Jun -	7,880