

## **Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB\_452\_23**

### **You asked:**

Please provide me with the below details;

**1. A list of the OFF-framework agencies used by the trust in the past 12 months'**

Thornbury.

**2. The average length of time a long-term agency placement is left vacant before being filled by the agencies who are ON framework in the past 12 months'**

There are no long-term agency placements in place for off framework agencies.

**3. How many long-term bookings and individual shifts have been placed through OFF-framework agencies in the past 12 months' (Please separate individual shifts and long-term placements)**

876 - Individual shifts between 01.08.2022 to 30.9.2023.

**4. Average cost per hour for Band 5, 6 and 7 agency workers paid to OFF-framework agencies in the past 12 months'**

Costs are at a set rate.

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.

**5. Who in the trust has authority to approve the use of off-framework agencies (name and job title)**

This would be a joint decision with Executive Director sign off.

**6. If authority to use off-framework agencies in the trust lies with a specific department i.e., temporary staffing/staffing solutions/agency bookings/NHSP or equivalents, then who in the trust has the authority to override such decision made by that department (name and job title)**

This is not applicable as Executive Director authorisation is required to use off-framework agencies.