

Date: Thursday, 14th September 2023
Our Ref: MB/CM FOI 5914

Sid Watkins Building
Lower Lane
Fazakerley
Liverpool L9 7BB
Tel: 01515253611
Fax: 01515295500
Direct Line: 01515563038

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 5914

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 05th September 2023.

Your request was as follows:

I'm writing to request information from NHS trusts in England about how much was spent on locum and agency doctors during the walkouts held by both consultants and junior doctors over the past 12 months.

Please provide answers for each timeframe and separate each one clearly in your response.

These timeframes are:

- (A) Junior doctor strike - 13, 14 and 15 March 2023
- (B) Junior doctor strike - 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 April
- (C) Junior doctor strike - 14, 15, 16 and 17 June
- (D) Junior doctor strike - 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 July
- (E) Junior doctor strike - 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 August
- (F) Consultant strike - 20 and 21 July
- (G) Consultant strike - 24, 25 and 26 August

For each given timeframe could you please provide the following information.

1. How many staff walked out as a result of industrial action over each period and what percentage of your junior doctor/consultant staff did this equate to. IE - 150 junior doctor staff walked out during 13, 14 and 15 March dates out of 200 junior doctor staff would be 75%.

[Please see the attached excel spreadsheet.](#)

2. How much did the trust spend on locum/agency workers during each period specifically as a result of industrial action. If this specific figure is not held, please provide the locum and agency spend for the previous year for each relevant timeframe. IE 13, 14 and 15 March 2023 vs 13, 14 and 15 March 2022.

[I can confirm that the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust did not use any locum or agency workers as a result of industrial action, therefore we do not hold this information.](#)

3. Did the Trust allow doctors who were taking part in industrial action to take on locum shifts at the same trust during

strike periods when they were not scheduled to work?

I can confirm that the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust did not use any locum or agency workers as a result of industrial action, therefore we do not hold this information.

4. If the answer to the above question was yes, (a) How many doctors did this during each period and (b) How much did the Trust spend on paying its own doctors for these shifts during each period?

I can confirm that the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust did not use any locum or agency workers as a result of industrial action, therefore we do not hold this information.

Please see our response above in [blue](#).

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

Please remember to quote the reference number, FOI 5914 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted by:

Post: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Online: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Mike Burns

Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information