

Agency Nursing Staff

Request and Response

Please see below questions. Also do not hesitate to provide useful, relevant and extra information on agency nursing which you feel I will find helpful.

Q1) What is your annual budget for temporary nursing staff? (For Agency). For the last 5 years, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015.

OUR RESPONSE: Budget and expenditure for agency nurses for the 6 years specified is presented in the table below – Q2. Please note that the trust does not generally budget for agency staff, as budgets are set on the basis of permanent staffing establishments. Agency staff are generally used to cover vacancies in permanent posts, and therefore the resulting underspend against the permanent staffing budget is assumed to fund the agency cost. In some cases, there will be a planned use of agency staff to provide specific services (usually new or temporary services) and in these cases, specific agency staff budgets might be created. This accounts for the low level and general variation in agency budgets reported.

Prior to financial year 2011/12, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust only provided mental health and learning disability services. During this time, there were several years where no agency nursing was used.

Q2) How much have you spent in the last 5 years on Agency Nursing staff?

OUR RESPONSE:

| Year | Budget | Spend |
|-------|--------|-------|
| 14/15 | 749 | 6,949 |
| 13/14 | 0 | 6,534 |
| 12/13 | 65 | 3,324 |
| 11/12 | 462 | 1,879 |
| 10/11 | 0 | 0 |
| 09/10 | 0 | 0 |

Q3) What companies do you use for Agency Nursing? Do you have contracts with them or are you free to choose whichever agency when filling a shift?

OUR RESPONSE: The Trust use HCL Nursing as a Master Vend provider. The Trust has a contract with them and we are not free to choose which agency when filling a shift

Q4) Can you provide data/statistics for which areas or wards you are typically understaffed? And as a result which type of agency nurse you need more often than not? i.e. Band 5, burns unit, early shift.

OUR RESPONSE: Please find attached

Q5) What is the average sum spent for a shift being fulfilled by an agency nurse?

OUR RESPONSE: Please find attached

Q6) What is involved in a contract between you're trust and an agency? Arrangements? Durations?? Clauses?

OUR RESPONSE: The contract must be in place with a compliant framework organisation. The Trusts current contract is in place through the Collaborative National Framework hosted by London Procurement Partnership. They will be able to provide you with a contract pack to view the standard clauses. The duration of the contract under framework is typically 4 years.

Q7) How often do you need/use an agency nurse in the trust? For example; everyday 20 agency nurses are doing shifts in the trust.

OUR RESPONSE: The Trust uses an average of 46 Qualified Nurses per day.