



# Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Ref: FOI/2024/10268

Date Received: 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Response Due: 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

**Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting information about the usage and supplier management of the RM6281 Workforce Alliance framework within your Trust. Please respond to the following questions:**

**1. Supplier Addition (Lot 1 under RM6281):7**

- **How many approved suppliers have been added to the Trust's supplier list for Lot 1 under RM6281 from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?**  
RM6281 Workforce Alliance framework is not used.

**2. Framework Usage Confirmation:**

- **Does the Trust currently use the RM6281 framework or Total Workforce Solutions HTE for staffing requirements?**  
Heath Trust Europe – Total Workforce Solutions.

**3. Preferred Supplier List (PSL):**

- **What are the names of the agencies on your PSL that supply agency staff under Lot 1 RM6281 framework or Total Workforce Solution HTE, and what tier is each agency assigned to?**  
Tier 1 = Bluestones, Medacs, Pulse and Your World.  
Tier 2 = First Point, Locum Vision and Pertemps.

**4. Shift Booking Above NHSE Capped Rate:**

- **How many shifts were booked above the NHS England capped rate from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?**

All agency rates are compliant with NHSE capped rates.

**5. Spending on Off-Framework Agencies:**

- **What was the total spend on off-framework agencies from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?**

None.

- **What are the names of these agencies, and what reasons are there for their continued use despite NHS England's restrictions?**

N/A.

**6. Spend on Approved Framework Suppliers:**

- **What was the total spend on approved framework suppliers between 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?**

£250,841.

- **In which area of specialty within Lot 1 does the Trust require a supplier that can book shifts within the capped rate to avoid breaches?**

The Trust does not use Lot 1 RM6281.

- **If applicable, what are the reasons for breaches of the capped rates for shifts?**

N/A.

**7. Framework Supplier Addition:**

- **Would the Trust add an approved framework supplier immediately if it could help reduce breaches of the NHSE capped rate?**

This would be governed by the Agency tier / process.

**8. Spending on Framework Agencies:**

- **How much was spent on framework agencies from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?**

£250,841.

**9. Supplier Selection Process:**

- **Does the Trust use Direct Award or Further Competition to select suppliers?**

Agencies are Direct Award via the Health Trust Europe framework.

- **What criteria are used to select suppliers, and is the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) principle applied?**

The above framework criteria.

**10. Audit Trail for Contract Awards:**

- **Could you provide a documented audit trail showing how contract awards were made, particularly for direct awards? This documentation should align with RM6281's Framework Schedule 7, which requires clear justification and transparency in awarding contracts.**

N/A.

**11. Neutral Vendor Information (if outsourced):**

- **If a neutral or master vendor is used, please provide the organisation's name, contact person, email, and office contact number.**

N/A.

**12. Further Competition and Framework Adherence:**

- **What was the date of the last further competition conducted?**  
N/A as the Trust does not use RM6281 Framework.
- **Has the Trust fully transitioned to using RM6281 and followed the guidance in Schedule 7 for supplier selection?**  
N/A.
- **Can you confirm adherence to the MEAT guidance provided in the framework?**  
N/A.

**13. Agency Spend Clarification:**

- **We have reviewed your organisation's FOI website but could not locate the requested information. If any part of these questions is unclear or incomplete, please provide a full response or reach out for clarification.**

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Tabitha Gardner  
Chief Finance Officer

**PLEASE NOTE:**

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

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

Helpline number: 0303 123 111