

## Freedom of Information request 399-23

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### Request

1. How many Agency shifts were advertised by this health board in NHS hospitals in 2023-24? Please provide this for each financial year since 2018-19. Please break this down into Nursing and Midwifery, as well as Medical and Dental.
2. In relation to Question 1, how many of these shifts were successfully filled? Please provide this for each financial year since 2018-19, including the current financial year.
3. Please provide the overall spend so far on agency staff in 2023-24. Please provide this for each financial year since 2018-19. Please break this down into Nursing and Midwifery, as well as Medical and Dental.
4. How many Bank shifts were advertised by this health board in NHS hospitals in 2023-24? Please provide this for each financial year since 2018-19. Please break this down into Nursing and Midwifery, as well as Medical and Dental.
5. In relation to Question 4, how many of these shifts were successfully filled? Please provide this for each financial year since 2018-19, including the current financial year.
6. Please provide the overall spend so far on bank staff in 2023-24. Please provide this for each financial year since 2018-19. Please break this down into Nursing and Midwifery, as well as Medical and Dental.

You may note this is similar to a freedom of information request I made a few months ago. Due to the imprecise manner in which I phrased the question, I am having to resubmit this request.

### Response

1. Nursing and Midwifery agency staff are provided by NHS Lothian, therefore, please note under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere. For your information, please find a link to NHS Lothian [Freedom of Information \(FOI\) – NHS Lothian | Our Organisation](#) .

Medical and Dental Agency shifts advertised and filled are calculated by assignment and working hours instead of shifts, therefore the number of shifts are not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. However, Under Section 15 Duty to Provide Advice and Assistance, the information for the number of assignments and hours requested is:

|                                   | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Requested assignments from Agency | 96      | 48      | 52      | 82      | 88      | 14      |
| Requested Hours from Agency       | 9545    | 6480    | 11052   | 11342   | 12832   | 2600    |

2. In relation to Question 1, the number of assignments and hours filled is:

|                              | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Filled assignments by Agency | 76      | 44      | 41      | 70      | 69      | 11      |
| Filled Hours by Agency       | 8652    | 5386    | 9004    | 10560   | 11880   | 1620    |

3. The overall spend on Nursing & Midwifery, and Medical & Dental agency staff is:

|                     | 2018/19    | 2019/20  | 2020/21    | 2021/22    | 2022/23    | 2023/24  |
|---------------------|------------|----------|------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Medical & Dental    | £1,098,653 | £785,719 | £1,333,065 | £1,789,979 | £2,965,821 | £208,548 |
| Nursing & Midwifery | £956,175   | £782,465 | £817,043   | £1,764,344 | £2,316,204 | £154,198 |

4. Nursing and Midwifery bank staff are provided by NHS Lothian, therefore, please note under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere. For your information, please find a link to NHS Lothian [Freedom of Information \(FOI\) – NHS Lothian | Our Organisation](#) .

Medical and Dental bank shifts advertised and filled are calculated by assignment and working hours instead of shifts, therefore the number of shifts are not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. However, Under Section 15 Duty to Provide Advice and Assistance, the information for the number of assignments and hours requested is:

|                                 | 2018/19  | 2019/20  | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Requested assignments from Bank | No data* | No data* | 10      | 30      | 85      | 28      |
| Requested Hours from Bank       | No data* | No data* | 180     | 720     | 2040    | 560     |

5. In relation to Question 4, the number of assignments and hours filled is:

|                            | 2018/19  | 2019/20  | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Filled assignments by Bank | No data* | No data* | 2       | 25      | 76      | 7       |
| Filled Hours by Bank       | No data* | No data* | 44      | 416     | 1692    | 136     |

6. The overall spend on Nursing & Midwifery, and Medical & Dental bank staff is:

|                     | 2018/19    | 2019/20    | 2020/21    | 2021/22    | 2022/23    | 2023/24  |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Medical & Dental    | £0         | £0         | £1,433     | £13,339    | £66,114    | £3,746   |
| Nursing & Midwifery | £3,112,771 | £1,876,387 | £5,861,879 | £3,390,690 | £2,722,751 | £164,178 |

Note: No data\* - this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or [foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk).

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **399-23** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the

Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle,  
Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.