



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-072

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Email [foi@uhnm.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@uhnm.nhs.uk)

Dear

I am writing in response to your emails dated 26<sup>th</sup> April and 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding strike labour cost.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

### Request #1

**Q1 Please could you tell me how much money your Trust spent on bank and/or agency and/or locum staff – and/or non-contractual rates to consultants or other medical staff employed by the Trust – to cover junior doctors’ shifts during industrial action by the British Medical Association on?**

**A) March 13-15 2023**

**And**

**B) April 11-15 2023**

**Please provide as much detail as possible on the staff category (i.e. agency or bank), department of the hospital and the day(s) of employment.**

A1 These figures are the total costs for the period and so it is possible that some of the bank/agency staff would have been working anyway. It is not possible to split between staff solely to cover strike shifts and those who would have worked regardless.

Division	March £'000		April £'000	
	Bank	Agency	Bank	Agency
Medicine & Urgent Care	334	75	434	93
Network Services	121	34	101	57
North Midlands & Cheshire Pathology	0	8	0	12

Services					
Surgery, Theatres & Critical Care	204	29		215	48
Womens, Childrens & Clinical Support Services	118	10		117	24
	777	156		867	234

## Request #2

**Q1 Pursuant to my previous FOI “cost of strike cover”, sent on April 25, please could you confirm the amount of money the Trust would have expected to spend (or estimates it would have spent) paying the wages of staff junior doctors who took BMA strike action if those who took action had worked their shifts as normal?**

**I want to work out if the Trust spent more money to cover striking doctors’ shifts with additional labour than it would have done had the striking staff worked the shifts.**

**Please can I have information corresponding to these dates of industrial action by the British Medical Association?**

**A) March 13-15 2023**

**and**

**B) April 11-15 2023**

**Please provide as much detail as possible on the department of the hospital and the day(s) of employment.**

**A1 See below:**

A) March 13-15 2023 = £240K

B) April 11-15 2023 = £285K

\*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



**Rachel Montinaro**  
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records