Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Ref. No:1622Date:24/03/25Subject:2024 temporary medical staffing data

REQUEST

I am requesting information relating to the permanent and temporary recruitment and staffing or medical doctors. I would prefer to receive the information in the attached Excel returned by email.

RESPONSE

Section 12 of the FOIA allows a public authority to refuse a request where it estimates that it would exceed the appropriate limit to comply with the request. The relevant section states:

12. (1) - Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

where the appropriate limit is equal to 18 hours of staff time as set by the *Freedom* of *Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004*

In determining the time limit, the Trust can only take into account

- determining whether the information is held;
- locating the information, or a document containing it;
- retrieving the information, or a document containing it; and
- extracting the information from a document containing it.

In order to determine whether the information is held in respect of your request, the Trust would need to **review** the data of several departments and systems. The complexity of the request means A simple report cannot be produced.

Advice and Assistance

Under section 16 of the FOIA, advice and assistance should be provided to allow the request to come under the appropriate limit by scaling or modifying the request.

Unable to narrow

However, as the information is not readily available and the number of requests so large, it would not be easy to scale down the request in this instance. It would also not be possible to scale the request to one month as this would still exceed the time limit.

Unfortunately, the Trust is unable to provide further assistance in this instance.