

Ref. No: 2705
Date: 17/07/26
Subject: Lead Employer Trainee Pay Protection Audits & ARCP
Eligibility

REQUEST

I write to request the following information regarding the application of the 2016 NHS Doctors and Dentists in Training Terms and Conditions of Service (TCS) by the Mersey and West Lancashire NHS Trust Lead Employer.

1. Please provide the following data for each financial year from 2016/17 to 2025/26 inclusive:
2. The total number of doctors in training who applied for pay protection under Paragraph 49 of the 2016 TCS upon transferring into a recognised hard-to-fill training programme.
3. Of those applications identified in Question 1, how many were denied eligibility for a protected pay rate specifically on the grounds that they had achieved an Outcome 4 in their most recent ARCP, or had not achieved an outcome 1, 2, 6 or 7.
4. Of the denials identified in Question 2, how many of those doctors transferred into their new training programme part-way through a training year (defined as commencing their new post at any point other than the standard August rotation)?

As a designated NHS Lead Employer responsible for the standardised employment and payroll governance of doctors in training, it is reasonably expected that robust, centralised, and auditable records of contract applications, ARCP outcomes, and pay protection decisions are maintained.

RESPONSE

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust does not have to comply with a request if we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £450. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2½ working days in answering the remainder of your questions. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

In line with our duty to provide advice and assistance we would advise you to submit a new request for information regarding the Trust as a whole. We would be able to supply this information within the appropriate limit.