FOI 2534

Date 04/10/2023

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. Please note, this is a cross-site response for Bedford site and Luton site.

You asked:

1. How many staff walked out as a result of industrial action over each period and what percentage of your junior doctor/consultant staff did this equate to. IE – 150 junior doctor staff walked out during 13, 14 and 15 March dates out of 200 junior doctor staff would be 75%.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Junior Doctors** | | | | | | | | |
|  | | **13th-15th March** | **11th-15th April** | | **14th-17th June** | **13th-18th July** | | **11th-15th August** |
| **Number** | | 1000 | 1349 | | 847 | 777 | | 742 |
| **Percentage** | | 80% | 79% | | 67% | 60% | | 71% |
|  | | **March** | **April** | | **June** | **July** | | **August** |
| **Cost 2022 £k** | | 1,924 | 1,977 | | 1,648 | 1,826 | | 1,604 |
| **Cost 2023 £k** | | 2,142 | 1,877 | | 1,648 | 1,826 | | 1,604 |
| **Consultants** | | | | | | | |
|  | | | **20th-21st July** | | | **24th-26th August** | |
| **Number** | | | 151 | | | 222 | |
| **Percentage** | | | 26% | | | 39% | |
| **Cost** | | |  | | |  | |
|  | | | **July** | | | **August** | |
| **Cost 2022 £k** | | | **1,202** | | | **981** | |
| **Cost 2023 £k** | | | **1,581** | | | **1,369** | |

1. How much did the trust spend on locum/agency workers during each period specifically as a result of industrial action. If this specific figure is not held, please provide the locum and agency spend for the previous year for each relevant timeframe. IE 13, 14 and 15 March 2023 vs 13, 14 and 15 March 2022.

See answer to Q1.

NB. BHFT reports financial information for full months so cannot provide a breakdown for the individual days. Spend for the months in which strike action took place has been provided alongside the comparator month in the previous financial year.

1. Did the Trust allow doctors who were taking part in industrial action to take on locum shifts at the same trust during strike periods when they were not scheduled to work?

No

1. If the answer to the above question was yes, (a) How many doctors did this during each period and (b) How much did the Trust spend on paying its own doctors for these shifts during each period?

N/A

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If you are not satisfied with the Trust review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. The ICO can be contacted at: ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

*FOI Officer*

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust