

**Freedom of Information Act 2000****The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request****Date Request Received: 13/03/2024****FOI Ref No: 23945****Requested Information:**

1. Does the Trust have a Managed Service (MSP) or MV or an external Bank supplier for the recruitment of agency staff? Please break this down into Doctors, Nursing & AHP if appropriate.
2. If yes, who is that contract with and when does it end?
3. If yes, how did the Trust review whether the supplier followed ethical business practices, what ethical insights did they gather?
4. What steps do the Trust take to ensure suppliers are paying their fair share of taxes and acting with integrity.
5. Who is responsible within the Trust, for ensuring that suppliers follow ethical business practices?

**Response:**

1. The Trust does not have a managed service or master vender or an external bank supplier for the recruitment of agency staff.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.
4. Agency staff are sourced via NHSE approved framework suppliers. Framework suppliers when joining the framework must undertake a Supplier Questionnaire which covers areas such as economic and financial standing, fraud, and grave professional misconduct. The Framework audits suppliers in these areas. The Trust also has policies and procedures in place to ensure that any off-payroll engagements are considered for compliance with IR35 legislation. The Trust uses the HMRC check employment status for tax (CEST) tool to determine if it is required to deduct tax and national insurance in respect of off-payroll workers.
5. Agency staff are sourced via NHSE approved framework suppliers. Framework suppliers build into their frameworks ethical business practice requirements which suppliers must adhere to and are audited against.

**Attachment(s):**

None.

**Date Response sent: 04/04/2024**