

**Freedom of Information Act 2000****The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request****Date Request Received: 07 May 2024****FOI Ref No: 24630****Requested Information**

- 1) Since December 2023, which Nurses Shifts has the Trust struggled to fill ? Please consider the following Specialities for this question : A&E Nurses, NICU,ICU, Midwives, Paediatric Nurses & General Nurses?
- 2) Do approved Framework agencies approve or confirm Shifts directly with the matron Nurses or any senior nurses directly in the wards with the agencies ( Within any of the wards)? If, yes which wards book Nurses directly with the agencies & please provide these Nurses Full names?
- 3) When does Temporary Staffing get approval for “Escalated rates” for Ad-hoc Shifts ? Please provide time scale leading up to the Shift date
- 4) When does Temporary Staffing get approval for “Escalated rates” for Long term Agency Nurse Bookings? Please provide time scale leading up to the booking?
- 5) Who in the trust has the authority to approve the use of Escalated rates or break glass rate for the Approval Framework agencies, Please provide Full Name & Email address ?
- 6) Please provide names of those agencies that are “breaching NHSI Rates” by being allowed to book Nurses & Midwives not within the NHSI capped rates ?
- 7) If an Approved framework agency can demonstrate their ability to provide Nurses & meet all the requirement with the possibility of using the alternative route of escalated or Break Glass rates , would Temporary staffing add that agency to their Tier 1 Suppliers list?
- 8) Who is the head of Procurement responsible for approving “Approved Framework agencies” to join their Tier 1 Suppliers list to provide Nurses & Midwives ? Please provide Full name & contact address email?

**Response**

- 1) RCHT does not struggle to fill any specialist roles
- 2) At RCHT all agencies go through the KernowFlex team, or bank office.
- 3) At RCHT we do not have escalated rates
- 4) Refer you to answer 3
- 5) If we did use escalated rates, it would be approved by the Director of Nursing or the Chief Executive, but the trust has not done this for years.
- 6) No agencies we use have rates above the NHSi Threshold
- 7) At RCHT we do not have a tiering system
- 8) Currently we are not procuring the services of any new agencies, as we do not have enough available shifts for the agencies or agency workers currently working in Cornwall.

**Attachment(s)**

None

**Date Response sent:**