

## Freedom of Information Act 2000

## The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request

Date Request Received: 01 November 2024

FOI Ref No: 26824

## Requested Information

- 1) Supplier Addition (Lot 1 under RM6281):
  - How many approved suppliers have been added to the Trust's supplier list for Lot 1 under RM6281 from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?
- 2) Framework Usage Confirmation:
  - Does the Trust currently use the RM6281 framework or Total Workforce Solutions HTE for staffing requirements?
- 3) Preferred Supplier List (PSL):
  - What are the names of the agencies on your PSL that supply agency staff under Lot 1 RM6281 framework or Total Workforce Solution HTE, and what tier is each agency assigned to?
- 4) Shift Booking Above NHSE Capped Rate:
  - How many shifts were booked above the NHS England capped rate from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?
- 5) Spending on Off-Framework Agencies:
  - What was the total spent on off-framework agencies from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?
  - What are the names of these agencies, and what reasons are there for their continued use despite NHS England's restrictions?
- 6) Spend on Approved Framework Suppliers:
  - What was the total spent on approved framework suppliers between 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?
  - In which area of specialty within Lot 1 does the Trust require a supplier that can book shifts within the capped rate to avoid breaches?
  - If applicable, what are the reasons for breaches of the capped rates for shifts?
- 7) Framework Supplier Addition:
  - Would the Trust add an approved framework supplier immediately if it could help reduce breaches of the NHSE capped rate?
- 8) Spending on Framework Agencies:
  - How much was spent on framework agencies from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?
- 9) Supplier Selection Process:

Information Governance

Version No: 1

Review Date: 2027

- Does the Trust use Direct Award or Further Competition to select suppliers?
- What criteria are used to select suppliers, and is the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) principle applied?

10) Audit Trail for Contract Awards:

- Could you provide a documented audit trail showing how contract awards were made, particularly for direct awards? This documentation should align with RM6281's Framework Schedule 7, which requires clear justification and transparency in awarding contracts.

11) Neutral Vendor Information (if outsourced):

- If a neutral or master vendor is used, please provide the organisation's name, contact person, email, and office contact number.

12) Further Competition and Framework Adherence:

- What was the date of the last further competition conducted?
- Has the Trust fully transitioned to using RM6281 and followed the guidance in Schedule 7 for supplier selection?
- Can you confirm adherence to the MEAT guidance provided in the framework?

13) Agency Spend Clarification:

- We have reviewed your organisation's FOI website but could not locate the requested information. If any part of these questions is unclear or incomplete, please provide a full response or reach out for clarification.

**Response**

- 1) None, the Trust contracts are still under RM6161 for lot 1.
- 2) The Trust's contracts are still on RM6161 for lot 1, other lots the Trust uses RM6281.
- 3) Not applicable, the Trust is still using RM6161 for lot 1.

4) Shift Booking Above NHSE Capped Rate:

- How many shifts were booked above the NHS England capped rate from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024

	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24
Admin & Estates	0	0	0	0	0
Healthcare Assistants & Other Support	67	0	0	0	0
Nursing, Midwifery & Health Visiting	31	47	43	40	46

5) Spending on Off-Framework Agencies:

- What was the total spent on off-framework agencies from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024?
  - RCHT does not use Off Framework agencies

- What are the names of these agencies, and what reasons are there for their continued use despite NHS England’s restrictions
  - RCHT does not use Off Framework Agencies

6) Spend on Approved Framework Suppliers:

- What was the total spent on approved framework suppliers between 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024

	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24
Admin & Estates	£4,459.95	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Healthcare Assistants & Other Support	£3,829.45	£0.00	£482.51	£0.00
Nursing, Midwifery & Health Visiting	£531,241.95	£501,296.53	£523,367.79	£508,936.57

- In which area of specialty within Lot 1 does the Trust require a supplier that can book shifts within the capped rate to avoid breaches
  - All agencies for within Nursing and admin are now at cap
  - The ONLY area that is not is Chemotherapy Nurses
- If applicable, what are the reasons for breaches of the capped rates for shifts
  - The ONLY area that is not is Chemotherapy Nurses

Spend on approved framework suppliers between 1 July-31 October 2024 was; Medics £1,799,492.85 & AHPs £241,730.97.

7) The Trust is not expanding its Supplier List for lot 1 currently.

8) Spending on Framework Agencies:

- How much was spent on framework agencies from 1st July, 2024 to 30th October 2024

	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24
Admin & Estates	£4,459.95	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Healthcare Assistants & Other Support	£3,829.45	£0.00	£482.51	£0.00
Nursing, Midwifery & Health Visiting	£531,241.95	£501,296.53	£523,367.79	£508,936.57

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9) The Trust directed awarded contracts to Suppliers who were existing suppliers to the Trust. Providers have been removed from our PSL due to not adhering to rate caps.

10) The Trust is not using RM6281 for lot 1. All requirements for other lots on RM6281 get sent to all providers on the framework.

11)The Trust doesn't have a MV or NV.

12)We do not hold this information. All awards for lot 1 contracts have been awarded with the assistance of the Workforce Alliance to ensure that the correct procedures have been followed.

13)The Trust has answered the questions posed.

**Attachment(s)**

None

**Date Response sent:**