Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.18.546  
Date Received: 03 May 2018

*Note to Applicant: As of 1 April 2017, North Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (NEP) and South Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (SEPT) merged to form one new organisation known as Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (EPUT).

Information Requested:

Please provide the following information that you have pertaining to your spend on agency recruitment fees for permanent staff positions (not including salaries) in the last available full financial year (please note the year in your response).

1. Spend on agency recruitment fees for permanent staff (not including salaries) – medical staff  
The Trust is unable to provide this information because it does not report recruitment fees on a separate account code as they have been coded to agency account codes. To collate the information requested would require a manual trawl of records that would exceed the time and cost limits. The Trust is therefore applying Section 12 of the Act (where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit).

2. Spend on agency recruitment fees for permanent staff (not including salaries) – nursing staff  
Please see response to Q1

3. Spend on agency recruitment fees for permanent staff (not including salaries) – allied health professionals (AHPs) and health science services (HSS) staff  
Please see response to Q1

4. Spend on agency recruitment fees for permanent staff (not including salaries) – non medical, non-clinical (NMNC) staff  
Please see response to Q1

Applied Exemption:

Section 12 (Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit):

(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

(2) Subsection (1) does not exempt the public authority from its obligation to comply with paragraph (a) of section 1(1) unless the estimated cost of complying with that paragraph alone would exceed the appropriate limit.

(3) In subsections (1) and (2) “the appropriate limit” means such amount as may be prescribed, and different amounts may be prescribed in relation to different cases.
(4) The Secretary of State may by regulations provide that, in such circumstances as may be prescribed, where two or more requests for information are made to a public authority—

(a) by one person, or

(b) by different persons who appear to the public authority to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign, the estimated cost of complying with any of the requests is to be taken to be the estimated total cost of complying with all of them.

(5) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision for the purposes of this section as to the costs to be estimated and as to the manner in which they are to be estimated