

Freedom of Information Request

Reference Number: EPUT.FOI.23.2946
Date Received: 26th of April 2023

Information Requested:

The questions relate to how much the trust paid consultants during recent industrial action by junior doctors and whether the paid rates in line with the BMA's 'rate card'.

Please answer the following questions in the Excel sheet provided:

1. How much did the trust spend (£) in total on paying for consultants to carry out non-contractual shifts, or paying for consultants to act down during contractual shifts, required to cover junior doctors' during the seven days of industrial action by junior doctors taken between 13 to 16 March, and 11 to 14 April 2023? Please provide a £ figure for the total. Please use the free text box if the trust wants to further explanation its answer.

Each night during industrial action, we had a shadow rota in place in which we had an additional consultant on call in case the consultant scheduled to be on call had to act down because a junior doctor was absent. The shadow rota was made up of volunteers who were paid for 2 hours of standby time. Once the junior rotas had been covered, standby consultants were stood down and paid two hours each night at 9am. For March, that amount was £155 per hour, resulting in a total payment of £930 for three nights, and for April, it was £200 per hour, resulting in a total payment of £1600 for four nights. There were no consultants who acted down during the day.

2. Did the trust pay the hourly rates outlined on the BMA rate card for consultants' non-contractual work, during either of the junior doctors' strikes in March or April? Please answer Yes or No. Please use the free text box if the trust wants to further explanation its answer.

[See response to Q1](#)

3. If the trust answered "No" to question 2, what was the maximum hourly rate (£/hour) the trust paid for non-contractual shifts, or for consultants to act down during contractual shifts required to cover junior doctors' shifts during either the March or April junior doctors' strike? If you answered "yes" to question 2, please leave this answer blank. Please use the free text box if the trust wants to further explanation its answer.

[See response to Q1](#)

4. Did the trust pay the hourly rates outlined on the BMA rate card for consultants' non-contractual shifts as of April 2023? Please answer Yes or No. Please use the free text box if the trust wants to further explanation its answer.

[See response to Q1](#)

5. If the trust answered “No” to question 4, what is the maximum hourly rate (£/hour) the trust paid consultants for non-contractual shifts as of April 2023? If the trust answered “yes” to question 4, please leave this answer blank. Please use the free text box if the trust wants to further explanation its answer.

[See response to Q1](#)

Publication Scheme:

As part of the Freedom of Information Act all public organisations are required to proactively publish certain classes of information on a Publication Scheme. A publication scheme is a guide to the information that is held by the organisation. EPUT’s Publication Scheme is located on its Website at the following link <https://eput.nhs.uk>