

Date 15/12/2025  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 10867

Enquiries to Richard Mutch  
Extension 35687  
Direct Line 0131 465 5687  
[loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot](mailto:loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot)  
[richard.mutch@nhs.scot](mailto:richard.mutch@nhs.scot)

Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – AGENCY STAFF

I write in response to your request for information in relation to agency staff.

Question:

1. How many Agency shifts were advertised by this health board in NHS hospitals in 2025/26 so far? Please include figures for 2024/25 as well. Please break this down into Nursing and Midwifery, as well as Medical and Dental.

Answer:

### 2024/25

Nursing & Midwifery – 10,550  
Medical & Dental – 2,245

### 2025/26

Nursing & Midwifery – 9,041  
Medical & Dental – 1,591

Question:

2. In relation to Question 1, how many of these shifts were successfully filled?

Answer:

### 2024/25

Nursing & Midwifery – 7,982  
Medical & Dental – 2,243

### 2025/26

Nursing & Midwifery – 6,259  
Medical & Dental – 1,544

Question:

3. Please provide the overall spend so far on agency staff so far in 2025/26. Please include figures for 2024/25. Please break this down into Nursing and Midwifery, as well as Medical and Dental.

Answer:

	2024/25 Total Costs	2025/26 M7 YTD Total Costs
Agency Nursing & Midwifery	£2,554,169	£1,814,947
Agency Medical & Dental	£2,265,323	£1,225,820
Staff Bank Nursing & Midwifery	£53,977,439	£34,833,860
Staff Bank Medical & Dental	£9,822,876	£5,846,418

Question:

4. How many Bank shifts were advertised by this health board so far in NHS hospitals in 2025/26? Please include figure for 2024/25. Please break this down into Nursing and Midwifery, as well as Medical and Dental.

Answer:

**2024/25**

Nursing & Midwifery - 232,600  
Medical & Dental - 20,572

**2025/26**

Nursing & Midwifery - 177,839  
Medical & Dental - 14,926

Question:

5. In relation to Question 4, how many of these shifts were successfully filled?

Answer:

**2024/25**

Nursing & Midwifery - 176,311  
Medical & Dental - 15,387

**2025/26**

Nursing & Midwifery - 132,491  
Medical & Dental - 11, 639

Question:

6. Please provide the overall spend so far on bank staff in 2025/26. Please include figures for 2024/25. Please break this down into Nursing and Midwifery, as well as Medical and Dental.

Answer:

See response to question 3.

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office online appeals service at [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal). If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

**ALISON MACDONALD**  
**Executive Director, Nursing**  
Cc: Chief Executive