

Information Governance

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13 November 2017
Reference no. 17180255

Dear

Request for Information: Freedom of Information Act

Thank you for your email of 7 November, making a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. You requested the following information and the Trust is able to provide the information below in response:

[Request](#) and Response:

- 1) Does your trust have an agreement with an outside organisation (such as Health Education England or similar) to fund the cost of NMC-approved mentor preparation programmes for your registered nurses (band 5 upwards) who wish/are required to take such training as part of their continuing professional development?

Yes we have an agreement to fund these programmes.

- 2) If not, are nurses required to **self-fund** [NMC-approved mentor preparation programmes](#)?

A small number of nurses may choose to self-fund as a module of a Masters' programme but this would be unusual.

- 3) In total, how many nurses from your trust have undertaken (even if not yet completed) NMC-approved mentor preparation programmes since January 2015 to the present date?

Please set out as below:

	2017	2016	2015

How many nurses who were self-funded?	Not known	Not known	Not known
How many nurses who had their costs covered?	111	89	124

4) If you can differentiate, please provide figures for how many nurses from your trust have completed more advanced NMC-approved mentor programmes, or have otherwise achieved **sign-off** status (to sign off students as competent enough to join the nursing register)?

The Trust is not able to differentiate, and holds no information in relation to this element of your request.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to me and I will ensure the decision is reviewed. The Trust will consider undertaking a review if requested to do so within 40 working days of the date the response is received by the applicant, and will apply discretion if a longer period of time has passed.

Should you wish to make a complaint as a result of the outcome of such a review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision.

Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust for FoI Act matters.

The ICO can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

Please contact me if there are any further queries.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mark Underwood

Head of Information Governance