FOI 3521

Date 15/01/2025

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request. Please note, this is a cross-site response for Bedford site and Luton site.

You asked:

1. The number of Whole-Time Equivalents (WTE) for Cardiac Physiologists /Clinical Cardiac Scientists currently employed by your Trust in the Echocardiography Department. Please specify the WTE per banding.

Band 7 – 15

Band 6 – 1-5

1. ﻿﻿﻿The number of vacant WTE positions in the Echocardiography Department. Please specify the banding.

1-5 – Band 7

1. ﻿﻿﻿How many Cardiac Physiologists/Healthcare Scientists got full TTE BSE accreditation in the last 24 months.

1-5

1. ﻿﻿﻿Do you have any Physiologist-led / Scientist-led services within the Cardiology department? Please specify the services and the staff banding.

1-5 – Band 7

1. ﻿﻿﻿Do you have any Cardiac Physiologists / Clinical Cardiac Scientists providing pediatric or/and ACHD echocardiograms? Are they congenital heart disease accredited? Please specify the services and the banding.

1-5 physiologist with EACVI accreditation in CHD providing 1 day a week CHD echocardiograms. We do not provide echocardiography for under 16-year-olds

1-5 Band 7

1. ﻿﻿﻿How many Cardiac Physiologists / Clinical Cardiac Scientists resigned from the echocardiography department in the last 24 months.

1-5

1. ﻿﻿﻿Details of any recruitment and retention premia (R&R) offered for Cardiac Physiologists / Clinical Cardiac Scientists.

Accredited staff get 10 % R&R bonus

1. ﻿﻿﻿The number of Cardiac Physiologists / Clinical Cardiac Scientists locums or bank staff hired at a premium rate? (change this to in the last 24 months?)

Varied month to month around 1-5 but not consistent shifts

1. ﻿﻿﻿Any outsourced Cardiac Physiologist/Healthcare Scientist services, if applicable. If such services are outsourced, please specify the percentage of echocardiography work outsourced on weekdays and weekends/bank holidays and what is the yearly cost for the echocardiography outsourced services?

Yes – Weekdays 1-5 staff per day, weekend 1-5 staff per day costing on average £20k per month

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If you are not satisfied with the Trust review under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. The ICO can be contacted at: ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk

 Yours sincerely,

 *FOI Officer*

 Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust