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28<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Reference number: CPFT FOI F24-426**

**SENT BY EMAIL**

Dear \*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for your email requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please find our responses provided below (in bold).

Your Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for the period August 2022 - August 2023 regarding the employment and related details of Physician Associates (PAs) within your trust. I believe this information is essential for public interest, transparency, and to better understand the role of PAs within the healthcare system. Please provide the information in digital media, specifically PDF, Excel, or Word documents.

To facilitate the processing of my request, please provide the following details:

1. Number of Physician Associates (PAs) Employed:

- Please provide the total number of Physician Associates employed in your trust for the stated time period.

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2. Average Annual Salary of PAs:

- Please disclose the average annual salary, or salary range, for Physician Associates employed in your trust for the stated time period, and a breakdown of how many PAs are on each Agenda for Change pay band.

**Band 7**



3. Average Weekly Working Hours:

- Specify the average number of hours worked per week by Physician Associates employed at your trust for the stated time period, and the average number of hours worked outside of the 9am-5pm time range.

**Working hours fall within 9 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday**

4. Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provide a detailed description of the job duties and responsibilities of Physician Associates within your trust for the stated time period.

**Please refer to attached Job Description for this post**

5. Supervision and Accessibility:

- Clarify what profession and grade are supervising Physician Associates and whether PAs at your trust are able to attend work if their supervising clinician is not immediately contactable by them.

**The Consultant Psychiatrist is the supervisor for the PA post. If the immediate consultant supervisor is not available – there is a support mechanism in place to ensure the PA(s) have appropriate supervision arrangements in place at all times.**

6. Role in Filling Rota Gaps:

- Indicate whether Physician Associates at your trust are permitted to fill rota gaps left by GMC Registered Medical Doctors. If so, specify the grade of doctors they are authorised to cover for.

**PA's do not provide cover on the junior doctor rotas.**

7. Hourly Rates for Bank Shifts:

- Please provide the hourly rate range paid to Physician Associates working bank shifts at your trust for the stated time period. Break down this range according to years of service if applicable.

**Not applicable**

8. Prospective Employment:

- Please disclose the number of Physician Associates your trust plans to employ in the next 5 years, or business cases out for employing PAs in the next 5 years.

**There are currently no plans for the Trust to employ any further PA's, nor are there any live business cases.**

I trust this information meets your needs. If you have any query or concern about the handling of your enquiry then please contact the Trust's Freedom of Information Lead at the address below.

You also have the right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

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



Telephone: 01625 545700

Website: [www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Legood  
Director of People and Business Development

