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NHS
Milton Keynes
University Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 31 March 2022.

I am pleased to confirm the following.

How many histopathology consultants had a substantive contract with the authority as at 28th February 2022.

6 Substantive Consultants

2. During the period 1st April 2021 to 28th February 2022, how much did the authority spend, in addition to the salaries of substantive consultants, on the reporting of histopathology cases, within the following categories of spend:

a) Payments for locum histopathologists - No fixed term NHS locums, not able to comment on agency locums.

Zero

b) Additional payments to substantive histopathologists employed by the authority for work in addition to their contracted programmed activities (PAs) - Again not able to comment on bank payments /overtime.

Zero

c) Payments to companies who provide a histopathology reporting service

Zero

3. During the period 1st April 2021 to 28th February 2022, how much did the authority spend with each of the following suppliers for the reporting of histopathology cases:

a) Unilabs

N/A

b) Source Bioscience

£150,156

As a teaching hospital, we conduct education and research to improve healthcare for our patients. During your visit students may be involved in your care, or you may be asked to participate in a clinical trial. Please speak to your doctor or nurse if you have any concerns.

Chief Executive: Joe Harrison
Chairman: Simon Lloyd

c) Backlogs (HCA Laboratories)

N/A

d) LD Path

N/A

e) Cellular Pathology Services

N/A

f) Digital Pathology Partners

N/A

g) Pathognomics

N/A

h) Synlab

N/A

i) The Doctors Laboratory

N/A

4. How do the authority manage the potential conflict of interest which arises when substantive histopathology consultants employed by the authority are involved in purchasing reporting services from the above mentioned suppliers, and are also paid by these suppliers to provide reporting services outside their contracted NHS hours. For example, company X suggests to consultant Y, employed by Trust Z, that if consultant Y gives company X a contract to provide reporting services to Trust Z, that company X may employ consultant Y to undertake reporting work through company X for Trusts A, B, C. Please indicate which of the following apply:

a)   The Authority doesn't recognise this as a risk.

b)   The authority recognises this as a risk, but doesn't take steps to manage this risk.

c)   The authority recognises this as a risk and requires all substantive consultants to declare any conflicts of interest.

d)   The authority recognises this as a risk and requires all substantive consultants to declare any conflicts of interest, and requires these consultants to disclose the source of all income in addition to their NHS salary.

e)   The authority recognises this as a risk and requires all substantive consultants to declare any conflicts of interest.

f)   The authority recognises this as a risk, and takes other steps to manage this risk – please explain.

C - The authority recognises this as a risk and requires all substantive consultants to declare any conflicts of interest.

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If you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the address above.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Co-ordinator
For and on behalf of Milton Keynes Hospital NHS Foundation Trust