

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 26 January 2021.

I am pleased to confirm the following.

In 2019 BMA and NHS England (NHSE) reached an agreement for funds to be allocated to trusts providing they signed up to the Fatigue and Facilities Charter. Up to £60,000 was allocated to individual trusts, with spending to be determined by the Trust Junior Doctor Forums.

The BMA are now in the process of auditing how this money has been spent and are asking all Trusts who received the money to provide details of how it has been spent or is planning to be spent if there is still money remaining.

1. Funding

Total Funds Given to Trust	£60,800.00
Total Funds Spent so far	£30,400.00
Total Funds Unspent so far	£30,400.00
Total Funds Unspent but allocated to project/items	£19,000.00

2. What was your process for allocation of funds?

a. Was the Junior Doctors Forum fully involved in the decision making?

Yes, the Junior Doctor Forum (JDF) nominated a sub-committee (Junior Doctor Funding Committee) which manages how the funding is spent. The co-chairs of the JDF sit on the Funding Committee and provide updates to the JDF on all decisions made. The JDF is also invited to submit ideas which can be funded and partake in surveys etc. as part of the proposal review process.

b. Was the Local Negotiating Committee involved in any decision making?

Yes, JLNC (Joint Local Negotiating Committee) were consulted and were comfortable with the membership of the Funding Committee and the delegated management of the funds to such committee. The JLNC also nominated the Trust BMA rep as their representative on the Funding Committee to ensure continued involvement.

c. Were any BMA representatives involved in the decision making?

Yes, the BMA representative(s) sit on the Funding Committee and play a significant role in determining whether each proposal submitted meets with the conditions of the F&F Charter as intended by the funding.

d. Who had final say in what was spent/allocated on?

This role was delegated by the JDF to the Funding Committee who reviews the proposals and makes a collective decision. Where there is a split Committee, decisions are put to a vote.

3. If you have spent all the funding, when was this achieved (month and year if possible)?

N/A

4. What are the plans for any unused funding at the end of this financial year?
a. How much longer is needed to allow for spending the remaining money?

Given the ongoing impact of the covid-19 pandemic, Estates capacity to progress with the planned refurbishment projects has been impacted. It is hoped that such pressures will ease, and the funds can be appropriately spent by the end of the 20/21 financial year.

b. Under which budget are the funds currently held?

Funds are held in the Post Graduate Project budget, under HR Education and Training.

5. Were there barriers to spending/allocating the money?

The ongoing covid-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the Trust's ability to progress with proposals and spend the funds. We have been unable to order stock which would have required storage for an indefinite period whilst Estates and IT teams rightly focused on ward reconfigurations etc.

On a broader point, we have been stringent in ensuring any spend meets the F&F Charter stipulations. On occasion, we have found it difficult to approve ideas which would be to the benefit of our junior doctors but may not meet all the criteria.

6. Please provide a breakdown on what items/areas the money has been spent/allocated on so far (proforma below can be used if easier)

Item/area of Expenditure i.e. sofas, mess	Total Funds Allocated	Spent/Unspent
Sleep pods for the provision of rest areas	£13,296.00	£13,296.00
Renovation of facilities in rest areas including chairs	£4,276.80	£4,276.80
Renovation and redecoration of rest areas including new LED lighting for comfort	£6,770.66	£5,294.10
Renovation of on call rooms in accommodation including halls, stairs, kitchen, bathrooms and four bedrooms	£7,908.00	£6,590.00
Installation of black out blinds in on call rooms	£1,119.26	£932.72

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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

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