

Email: foi.tsdfd@nhs.net
Our Ref: TSD10863

Dear Sir/Madam

Request for Information

We are writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information you requested.

A copy of the information is below:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting recorded information on "specialling" at your Trust.

By specialling I mean 1:1 nursing observation of a patient, usually by bank or agency staff. It may also be called enhanced observation, enhanced care or ETOC.

For the financial year 2025/26, please provide the cost of bank and agency specialling broken down by ward, along with the type of each ward or its main treatment function (for example, elderly care, stroke, surgical).

If held, please also split each ward's cost between bank and agency staff.

Illustrative example:

- *Ward A - Elderly care: £100,000 (Bank £70,000, Agency £30,000)*
- *Ward B - Stroke: £50,000 (Bank £50,000, Agency £0)*
- *Ward C - Surgical: £25,000 (Bank £20,000, Agency £5,000)*

If a ward breakdown is not held, the Trust's total cost is acceptable.

Please say whether the bank figures include employer on-costs, and whether agency figures include fees and VAT.

Finally, please confirm whether the Trust has a dedicated enhanced care team (a permanent team whose role is to provide 1:1 observation across wards).

The table below shows the Trust's total cost of 1:1 specialling for the 2025/26 financial year (April 2025 to March 2026), including on-costs. The Trust does not have a dedicated permanent team solely responsible for providing 1:1 care.

April 2025 to March 2026				
Unit	Agency £	Bank £	Total £	Ward activity summary
Acute Medical Unit (AMU)	£25,708.30	£131,668.91	£157,377.21	Assesses, diagnoses and treats adults with urgent acute medical problems, including patients referred for rapid medical review.
Ainslie Ward - Trauma	£7,228.95	£35,145.63	£42,374.59	Provides inpatient trauma and orthopaedic care, including treatment and recovery following injuries and orthopaedic procedures.
Allerton Ward	£8,220.18	£72,043.49	£80,263.67	Provides inpatient care for colorectal surgery and gastroenterology patients.
Brixham Hospital Inpatients	£8,312.81	£15,687.65	£24,000.46	Provides inpatient care within Brixham Community Hospital, supporting patients who need hospital-based nursing and medical care closer to home.
Cheetham Hill Ward	£29,505.01	£88,714.54	£118,219.54	Provides acute medical care for older people, including assessment, treatment and discharge planning.
Cromie Ward	£664.48	£53,128.13	£53,792.61	Provides inpatient care for general surgery and urology patients.
Dart Ward Totnes Hospital	£7,452.54	£10,135.69	£17,588.23	Provides rehabilitation, ongoing medical care and complex discharge planning, mainly for frail older patients, with some direct admissions for treatments or end-of-life care.
Dunlop Ward	£12,109.70	£12,719.45	£24,829.16	Provides specialist inpatient cardiology care for patients admitted under the cardiac team.
EAU4 Emergency Assessment Unit	£63,868.41	£99,545.77	£163,414.18	Rapidly assesses and treats emergency patients to determine whether they can be discharged or need admission to a specialist ward.
Ella Rowcroft Elective Admissions	£283.21	£6,600.25	£6,883.45	Supports trauma and orthopaedic patients, including planned admissions and inpatient recovery from orthopaedic treatment.

Emergency Department - Nursing	£10,197.48	£1,490.62	£11,688.10	Provides immediate nursing assessment, monitoring and treatment for patients with urgent and emergency conditions.
George Earle Ward	£22,672.49	£25,426.63	£48,099.12	Provides inpatient stroke care and general medicine.
Hospital Services Dawlish Hospital	£9,648.16	£9,899.49	£19,547.64	Provides community hospital services including intermediate care, diagnostics, minor procedures and outpatient clinics.
Louisa Cary Ward	£6,995.59	£19,411.46	£26,407.05	Cares for children and young people aged 0–17 who need medical, surgical, psychological, day-case or higher-dependency care.
McCallum Ward	£9,952.66	£21,687.82	£31,640.48	Provides short-stay acute care, assessment and treatment, and supports patients who are medically ready to move through discharge arrangements.
Midgley Ward	£23,214.16	£63,080.96	£86,295.13	Provides inpatient acute and respiratory medicine care.
New Forrest Ward	£76,767.70	£74,271.44	£151,039.14	Provides inpatient general medical care.
Simpson Ward (COTE)	£31,212.20	£55,829.23	£87,041.43	Provides acute medical and care-of-the-elderly services, including treatment and discharge planning for older patients.
Stroke Unit/Templar Ward Newton Abbot Hospital	£12,033.55	£40,685.04	£52,718.59	Provides specialist stroke and neurological rehabilitation alongside general medical inpatient care.
Teign Ward Newton Abbot Hospital	£16,721.60	£42,634.16	£59,355.76	Provides rehabilitation and general medical inpatient care, including step-down care and complex discharge planning.
Torbay Cardiac Centre (CPU)	£1,525.71	£6,882.46	£8,408.17	Provides cardiac emergency triage, chest-pain observation, coronary care, cardiac monitoring and specialist heart procedures.
Turner Ward	£0	£4,828.63	£4,828.63	Provides inpatient oncology and haematology care.

Warrington Ward	£8,640.97	£9,433.18	£18,074.15	Provides inpatient care for ENT, general surgery, gynaecology and maxillofacial patients.
Grand Total	£392,935.87	£900,950.62	£1,293,886.49	

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If you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact us, quoting the FOI reference number above.

If you are unhappy with the way in which we have handled your request, please contact the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Lead in the first instance. If you wish to make a formal complaint, you should write to our Complaints Manager at Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, First Floor Bowyer Building, Torbay Hospital, Torquay TQ2 7AA or by email to tsdft.feedback@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will only make a decision once you have exhausted the complaints and/or internal review process provided by us. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or through this link <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team