

ND ref. FOI/17/322

Freedom of Information

Thank you for your 07/11/17 request for the following information:

1) *Does your trust have an agreement with an outside organisation (such as Health Education England or similar) to fund the cost of NMC-approved mentor preparation programmes for your registered nurses (band 5 upwards) who wish/are required to take such training as part of their continuing professional development?*

Answer: Yes, up until year 2016/17. No from 2017/18 onwards as Health Education England South West (HEESW) have withdrawn funding. Plymouth University now supply Mentor Preparation Course at a reduced rate.

2) *If not, are nurses required to self-fund NMC-approved mentor preparation programmes?*

Answer: Only those nurses who wish to undertake Tariffed (Full Mentorship) course, this is 50% funded by Trust from 2017/18.

3) *In total, how many nurses from your trust have undertaken (even if not yet completed) NMC-approved mentor preparation programmes since January 2015 to the present date?*

Please set out as below:

	2015	2016	2017
<i>How many nurses who were self-funded?</i>	0	0	0
<i>How many nurses who had their costs covered?</i>	34	22	26

Answer: Please see table above:

4) *If you can differentiate, please provide figures for how many nurses from your trust have completed more advanced NMC-approved mentor programmes, or have otherwise achieved **sign-off** status (to sign off students as competent enough to join the nursing register)?*

Answer: 57 nurses.