

Subject: Request for the information in relation to the supply of agency staff from recruitment agencies

FOI reference: 202100159772

Date received: 17 February 2021

Date responded: 10 March 2021

Information requested:

“Request for the information listed below in relation to the supply of agency staff from recruitment agencies:

- [1] List of recruitment agencies currently being used for the supply of agency staff.
- [2] Breakdown of current spend per agency [2019-2021]
- [3] What framework/DPS this spend is going through”

NRS Response:

NRS procures temporary staff and interim specialists through Scottish Government interim managers and temporary staff frameworks. Where an interim specialist cannot be procured through an SG framework we will then explore the available Crown Commercial Services collaborative frameworks.

We follow the buyers guidance for purchasing temporary and interim staff through a recruitment agency via the Crown Commercial Services framework, which states procurement is through a ranked option only, inviting them to propose suitable candidates in turn, which are then evaluated against the role requirements. This can be a lengthy process. Whereas procurement through the SG temporary staff frameworks can be either through the ranked option or through a further/mini competition inviting all of the recruitment agencies to submit CV's for evaluation at the same time for suitable candidates who appear to meet the temporary staff role requirement(s).

The spend for the period 2019-2021 with the recruitment agencies we have contracts with through the available Scottish Government and Crown Commercial Services for interim and temporary staff are:

Supplier/Recruitment Agency	Frameworks the Contracts were procured through	Spend from 1 April 2019 to 28 February 2021 (Ex. VAT)
ASA Recruitment	<u>Scottish Government Frameworks:</u> Interim Professional Staff Services – SP 18-014	£952,199
Brightwork Ltd	<u>Scottish Government Frameworks:</u> Temporary and Administrative, Catering and Manual Staff Services – South- SP 18-013	£44,521
Harvey Nash Consulting (Scotland) Ltd	<u>Scottish Government Frameworks:</u> Interim Professional Staff Services – SP 13-022 Interim IT Staff Services – SP 12- 023 Interim IT Staff Services – SP 18- 015	£4,773,495
Hays	<u>Crown Commercial Services Frameworks:</u> Non Medical Non Clinical RM 971Lot 5/6160Lot 3	£455,176
Lorien	<u>Scottish Government Framework:</u> Interim IT Staff Services – SP 18- 015	£273,096
Parity Professionals Ltd / Parity Solutions Ltd	<u>Scottish Government Frameworks:</u> Interim Professional Staff Services – SP 13-022 Interim IT Staff Services – SP 12- 023	£2,815,014
Pertemps (Group of Companies)	<u>Scottish Government Frameworks:</u> Temporary and Administrative, Catering and Manual Staff Services – South- SP 18-013 <u>Crown Commercial Services Frameworks:</u> Non Medical Non Clinical RM 971 and RM 6160	£386,508
Spring Technology Staffing Services Ltd	<u>Scottish Government Framework:</u> Interim IT Staff Services – SP 12- 023	£123,882
Venesky-Brown	<u>Scottish Government Framework:</u> Interim IT Staff Services – SP 18- 015	£1,138,964

In response to all of your questions some of this information is already available on the NRS and Public Contracts Scotland websites. In line with the obligations under the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 Section 18(2) NRS publishes a Register of Regulated Contracts (those tendered with a value of £50k and over) and an Annual Procurement Report of our procurement activities on regulated procurements. Information on individual regulated procurements completed (including procurements through collaborative framework contracts) are detailed in the Annual Procurement Report. A copy of the reports for the previous two financial years and the Register of Regulated Contracts can be found on the Procurement page on the NRS website <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/about-us/procurement> or on the documents section of NRS buyers page on Public Contracts Scotland (PCS) at https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00474. The NRS buyers page on PCS also contains contract award notices for our regulated contracts.

Under section 25(1) of FOISA, we do not have to provide information if it is already reasonably accessible. However, we have answered the request in full on this occasion.