21 March 2016

Agency rules: list of approved framework agreements for all staff

From 1 April 2016, trusts subject to the agency rules are required to secure all agency staff (nurses, doctors, other clinical and non-clinical staff) via framework agreements that have been approved by Monitor/NHS Trust Development Authority (TDA).

The following framework agreements are approved based on applications received by 3 March 2016. Framework agreements have been reviewed against the conditions set out in the framework operator guidance published on 18 February 2016. We will continue to review applications on an ongoing basis and communicate outcomes to trusts.

These approved framework agreements will be a vehicle for enabling trusts to comply with the price cap policy.

Approved framework agreements

The following framework agreements are approved for use by NHS trusts and NHS foundation trusts:

- Crown Commercial Services: RM971 Non-Medical Non-Clinical
- Crown Commercial Services: RM1570 Locum Doctors (including Locum GPs)
- Crown Commercial Services: RM3711 Multidisciplinary Temporary Healthcare Personnel
- Crown Commercial Services: RM970 Agency Nurses and Social Care Workers
- Crown Commercial Services: RM959 Allied Health Professionals, and Health Science and Emergency Services staff
- HealthTrust Europe: Nursing and Care Services Flexible Workers
- HealthTrust Europe: Temporary Allied Health Professionals and Health Science Staff
• HealthTrust Europe: Framework for provision of Medical Locums and Locum General Practitioners

• NHS Collaborative Procurement Partnership: National Collaborative Framework for the supply of Nursing and Nursing-related staff

• NHS London Procurement Partnership: Allied Health Professionals and Health Science Services

• NHS London Procurement Partnership: Medical Locums Framework Agreement.

These framework operators have committed to delivering as soon as possible (and by 1 November 2016 at the very latest) framework agreements that fully embed the price caps, and maximum pay rates for the worker in line with standard NHS rates.

We will update this list when these agreements expire, are superseded by new agreements and/or additional agreements are approved.

Next steps

We encourage all trusts to contact the framework operators listed above to discuss using the approved framework agreements.

Agencies can also contact the framework operators to discuss use and accessibility, including opportunities to join new framework agreements.

Framework operators who have not yet applied for approval are encouraged to read the guidance for framework operators published on 18 February 2016 and to apply for approval by using the framework approval application form on our website. We will review applications on an ongoing basis.

We will publish consolidated guidance for trusts shortly, which will bring together guidance for all the agency rules in one place.

Please email any queries to agencyrules@monitor.gov.uk