

MEDIA STATEMENT

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Approved by: SHAHEDAL BARI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF UHMBT
Issued by: Ingrid Kent, Ingrid.kent@mbht.nhs.uk
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STATEMENT ON LOCUM UROLOGY CONSULTANTS – FOI 9255

Dr Shahedal Bari, Medical Director of University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust (UHMBT), said: “There has been no increase in agency spending in the Trust’s Urology Department. This is the result of a number of initiatives focusing on reduced spending on agency workers and an emphasis on recruitment.

“Urology is a single service that operates out of different sites and all Consultants are now recruited on a cross-Bay basis. We have not employed a Locum Consultant in Urology for a considerable period of time, although to support the safe delivery of services from the cross-Bay team by appointing other non-consultant grade locum doctors.

“Our approach has always been to recruit permanent staff, where possible, due to the benefits of continuity of care and clinical/financial sustainability. Notwithstanding that, the use of agency staff is sometimes necessary and appropriate in unforeseen circumstances to ensure safety and we have to meet the market rate for Cumbria and Lancashire.

“In light of these challenges, I would like to thank our caring and dedicated Urology team members who are working hard to provide the best possible service to patients.”

ENDS

Notes to editors:

1. For further information, please contact the communications team on 01524 518 964 or by emailing comms.team@mbht.nhs.uk
2. Bay Health and Care Partners (BHCP) include: University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust (UHMBT); Morecambe Bay Clinical Commissioning Group (MBCCG); Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust ; GP Providers Alliance; Cumbria County Council; Lancashire County Council. In addition, the following organisations contribute to Bay Health and Care Partners, Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) and North West Ambulance Service (NWAS). BHCP's vision is: To see a network of communities across Morecambe Bay enjoying great physical, mental and emotional wellbeing, supported by a health and care system that is recognised as being as good as it gets.