

## Freedom of Information request 4-17

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### Request

- Could the health board provide the amount of money contributed from the board's baseline budget towards the treatment of drug and alcohol interventions and treatment in 2016-17, using the following definition:

*the total amount spent on alcohol and drugs services = the amount allocated by the Scottish Government as set out in [this](#) table + the amount contributed from the health board's baseline budget*

as set out in [this](#) letter from Health Secretary Shona Robison dated 7 January 2016 setting out expectations for health boards to contribute a total of £15 million from baseline budgets to support the treatment of drug and alcohol misuse.

- Is the health board also able to provide the amount they plan to contribute from their baseline budget in 2017-18?

### Response

1. Total direct expenditure on alcohol and drug services for Scottish Borders as detailed within the Health Budget:

Service Provision	2016/17 Annual Budget
Alcohol & Drugs Partnership Funding from Scottish Government	£1,049,582
Health Board Contribution including the cost of drugs and supervision	£515,000 *projected based on current level actual spend (Apr - Oct 2016)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,564,582</b>

The above total budgets are direct budgets for Drugs and Alcohol services. Indirect costs together with resource from central staffing teams (for example Medical Staffing) and supplies budgets are not sufficiently detailed/time analysed to enable apportionment of costs to be calculated.

2. NHS Borders is currently drafting its Financial Plan for 2017/18 and future years. This has not yet been finalised and will require approval by the Health Board. Budgets for 2017/18 will not be available until this process has been concluded in March 2017.

**Notes to support the above information:**

*The costs for drugs and supervision fees for the time period Apr 16-Oct 16 are £214,789.78. Projecting the level of spend for the 12 months of 2016/17 would result in a total annual spend of £515k.*

*Please note drugs cost data for Primary Care is in the public domain at <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Prescribing-and-Medicines/Publications/> each months drug figures are available as 'Prescribing Statistics-Monthly Prescribing Activity Data (Experimental Statistics)'.*

*The Costs presented via the above link includes all prescribing in Primary and Secondary Care that can definitively be allocated to the treatment of drug and alcohol treatment. Costs do not include the prescribing of drugs where there is the potential for use other than drugs and alcohol treatment e.g. Diazepam may be used for muscle spasm and anxiety in addition to addiction to benzodiazepines or alcohol detoxification. We are unable to provide figures for items like diazepam as information on the indication for a drug's use isn't directly available without a review of individual patient clinical records.*

*Drugs Included in the costs for information are:*

ACAMPROSATE CALCIUM  
BUPRENORPHINE  
BUPRENORPHINE AND NALOXONE  
CHLORDIAZEPOXIDE  
CLOMETHIAZOLE  
DISULFIRAM  
LOFEXIDINE HYDROCHLORIDE  
METHADONE HYDROCHLORIDE  
NALTREXONE HYDROCHLORIDE

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or [foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk).

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **4-17** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.