

## Freedom of Information request 148-17

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### Request

1. How much has the board spent on private ambulances in (a) 2014-15, (b) 2015-16 and (c) 2016-17 to date, breaking expenditure down by company.
2. On how many occasions has the board used private ambulances in (a) 2014-15, (b) 2015-16 and (c) 2016-17 to date, broken down by company, and how many (i) patients did they transport and (ii) journeys did they cover.
3. Please provide details of the board's arrangements with private ambulance providers? For example, is there a contract with them and in what circumstances are their services employed?

### Response

The following table details the expenditure incurred on Private Ambulances in 2014/15, 2015/16 & 2016/17:

Financial Year	Total expenditure
2014/15	£81,726
2015/16	£107,031
2016/17 to 31.01.17	£82,072

The Board uses one supplier for Private Ambulance - ABC Ambulance Services Ltd.

The Finance System does not record on an individual basis details of the journeys provided by this supplier. To provide the response to this question would require a manual trawl of the invoices paid by the Board and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002, therefore we are not required to provide.

The Board is charged as per an agreed price list by the supplier for Ambulances services. Private ambulances are used to provide transport for patients.

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 **148-17** 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.