

Freedom of Information request 154-17

Request

I would be very grateful if you could help me. I originally emailed the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) and NHS Scotland but they have both referred me to the NHS Health Boards in Scotland as the providers of prison healthcare in Scotland.

I am emailing in my capacity as an Ambassador for a charity and support group for people living on Artificial Nutrition in the UK called PINNT which has existed for 30 years: <http://pinnt.com/> Throughout the UK there are many people relying on Home Artificial Nutrition (HAN) who for a range of reasons are unable to nourish their body through normal food and drink. I have a Surgical Jejunostomy feeding tube (a feeding tube that goes into the small bowel) to supply my body with the food and nutrients it requires as although I can eat small amounts of food it isn't enough to sustain me. There are approximately 30,000 people receiving Enteral feeding (nutrition supplied via a feeding tube - Naso-gastric, Naso-jejunal, PEG, JEJ etc.) in the UK, and nearly 1800 people in the UK receive Parenteral feeding (fed intravenously) to survive.

It recently occurred to me that it is highly probable that there are people within the UK prison population who are also living on Artificial Nutrition. I would be very grateful if you could possibly provide me with any statistics or information you happen to hold on the numbers of prisoners within the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) who are receiving Artificial Nutrition. As a charitable organisation PINNT would then like to explore the option of providing some form of support and information to those prisoners living on Artificial Nutrition. I am aware of similar initiatives already taking place such as the Vegan Prisoners Support Group who work closely alongside the National Offenders Management Service (NOMS) to provide vital support and information to vegan prisoners and prison staff. I feel strongly that PINNT could provide a very similar initiative supporting prisoners who are living on Artificial Nutrition and providing information to prison staff within the Scottish Prison Service.

Response

There are no prisons within the Scottish Borders and therefore NHS Borders does not have responsibility for health in any prison.

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.

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 **154-17** 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.