

Freedom of Information request 211-17

Request

Please find attached and below two questions that we would like you to answer under the Freedom of Information Act. I am asking on behalf of the Specialist Engineering Contractors' (SEC) Group and my contact details are also listed below.

We would like to know:

1. What steps have you taken (in accordance with section 15(5)(d) Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014) to ensure that payments in construction works sub-contracts and sub-sub-contracts are made no later than 30 days after presentation of invoice or similar claim?
2. If you haven't taken any steps, please indicate when you intend to take such steps?

Response

The Boards Code of Corporate Governance includes the agreed Procurement Strategy which underpins the systems and processes which are in place.

The Procurement Strategy notes within the Supplier Development and Contract Management section that the Board will aim to settle all invoices within 30 days (monitored through financial KPIs).

Through the agreed Contract Management process once a contract has been awarded the payment of Sub Contractors is monitored through project meetings with the Principal Contractor.

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 **211-17** 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.