

## Freedom of Information request 433-17

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### Request

1. Could you tell me whether your health board is one of those in Scotland which uses medical staff employed by private firms to cut waiting times?

I'm talking about firms such as Medinet, which has been used in Scottish hospitals in the past. Under the arrangements, NHS patients are treated by employees of the firms in NHS hospitals, often at weekends.

2. If such firms are used can you please tell me which firms they are and how much has been spent on them in the last financial year?

### Response

1. NHS Borders has used Medical and Nursing Staff from external suppliers to achieve waiting times target for patients.
2. The Board has used Synaptik to supply the additional staffing resources required to achieve the waiting times targets for patients.

In 2016/17 the Board spent a total of £130,620 with Synaptik.

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 **433-17** 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.