

## Freedom of Information request 20-18

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### Request

This request concerns taxi and courier services used by your NHS authority

1. Please state the amount your authority spent on taxis in each of the following financial years:  
This should include both taxis and private hire vehicles.
  - i) 2012/13
  - ii) 2013/14
  - iii) 2014/15
  - iv) 2015/16
  - v) 2016/17
  - vi) 2017/17 to 15.01.18
  
2. Please provide a breakdown of the amount spent on taxis by department (for example, pathology, accident and emergency, etc.)  
Please provide information for each of the following financial years:
  - i) 2012/13
  - ii) 2013/14
  - iii) 2014/15
  - iv) 2015/16
  - v) 2016/17
  - vi) 2017/17 to 15.01.18
  
3. Please provide a breakdown of the amount spent on taxis by reason for spend (for example, staff transport, transport of test results or samples etc.)  
Please provide information for each of the following financial years:
  - i) 2012/13
  - ii) 2013/14
  - iii) 2014/15
  - iv) 2015/16
  - v) 2016/17
  - vi) 2017/17 to 15.01.18
  
4. Please state the amount your authority spent on courier services in each of the following financial years:  
Please provide information for each of the following financial years:
  - i) 2012/13
  - ii) 2013/14
  - iii) 2014/15
  - iv) 2015/16
  - v) 2016/17
  - vi) 2017/17 to 15.01.18
  
5. Please provide a breakdown of the amount spend on courier services by department (for example, pathology, accident and emergency, etc.)  
Please provide information for each of the following financial years:
  - i) 2012/13
  - ii) 2013/14
  - iii) 2014/15
  - iv) 2015/16
  - v) 2016/17

vi) 2017/17 to 15.01.18

6. Please provide a breakdown of the amount spend on courier services by reason (for example, transport of test results or samples, etc.)

Please provide information for each of the following financial years:

i) 2012/13

ii) 2013/14

iii) 2014/15

iv) 2015/16

v) 2016/17

vi) 2017/17 to 15.01.18

## Response

1-3 Taxi spend incurred by the Board for the period requested is shown below.

- 2012/13 - £95,446
- 2013/14 - £140,460
- 2014/15 - £183,165
- 2015/16 - £214,143
- 2016/17 – £195,304
- 2017/18 to 15/01/18 - £159,091

The information for this FOI has been extracted from the Board's Finance System.

NHS Borders use taxis for a variety of reasons. This can include patient transport, transfer of equipment, urgent transportation of laboratory samples, x-rays from radiology and patient case notes. The information contained on the invoices from the taxi companies does not distinguish the reason for transportation. Therefore under section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this information is not held.

4-6 Courier spend incurred by the Board for the period requested is shown below.

- 2012/13 - £2,166
- 2013/14 - £3,208
- 2014/15 - £2,502
- 2015/16 - £3,685
- 2016/17 – £4,236
- 2017/18 to 15/01/18 - £900

NHS Borders use courier services for a variety of reasons. This can include transfer of equipment, urgent transportation of laboratory samples and priority documentation. The information contained on the invoices from the courier companies does not distinguish the reason for transportation. Therefore under section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this information is not held.

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 **20-18** 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.