

Freedom of Information request 94-18

Request

- How much money NHS Borders is owed by health boards in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, for the treatment of patients which are not registered to NHS Borders.
- Any documents relating to the policy procedure for how to obtain money from Health boards in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- I am looking to know;
 - a. The outstanding amount which NHS Borders is owed by health boards in England, Wales and Northern Ireland for the treatment of patients which are not registered to NHS Borders on the date of 21/02/18 or later.
 - b. What is the policy regarding the procedure to obtain money from other Health boards following the treatment of patients which are not registered to NHS Borders.
 - c. What percentage of this payment is due for services related to GPs.
 - d. What percentage of this payment is due for services related to hospital treatments.
 - e. What percentage of this payment is due for other health care treatments within NHS Borders.
- Any other relevant information regarding why money has not been obtained from health boards in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, for the treatment of patients which are not registered to NHS Borders.

Response

- a) The following is the total sum owed to NHS Borders by English, Welsh and Northern Ireland Health Authorities as at 28 February 2018:

	Outstanding debtors balance as at 28.02.18
Welsh Health Bodies	£14,458.73
England Health Bodies	£511,400.65
Northern Ireland	£1,141.00
Total	£527,000.38

- b) NHS Borders identifies treatment provided to Non Borders residents from the Patient Administration System. Information is passed to the Board's Finance Team who cost the treatment using appropriate tariff costs and issue debtors invoices to the relevant Health Authority as advised by the Patient Administration System. Recovery of debtor balances is progressed by the Finance Team.
- c-e) The information supplied in this response has been collated from the National Finance System and as such does not hold the level of detail which can be used to calculate the percentage requested. To extract this data would require a manual trawl of paper invoices and the cost of carrying out this work

would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

The Scottish Government is supporting NHS Scotland Health Boards in the discussions with English and Welsh Health Authorities as NHS Scotland is, in a number of cases, unable to recover monies due to the change in, and many different, commissioning arrangements in place with English and Welsh Health Authorities.

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 **94-18** 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.