

Freedom of Information request 163-18

Request

I would like to know how much the health board relies on charitable donations/funding to fund its hospitals' equipment and resources, and what percentage of the health board's revenue comes from charitable donations.

The following questions are in order of importance; please answer them in order and answer as many of the questions as the statutory time limit allows.

1. a) What was the health board's total income from charitable donations/funding in the 2017/18 tax year, the 2016/17 tax year and the 2015/16 tax year?

b) For each tax year, please state where the charitable donations/funding came from (e.g. hospital league of friends, charities, etc).

c) And for each tax year, please state what percentage of the health board's total revenue came from charitable donations/funding.

For example, in 2017/18, £100,000 came from charitable donations, £10k from the British Heart Foundation, £90k from the hospital league of friends, which totalled 1% of the health board's total revenue.

Please note: If time is an issue for this question alone, please deal with the most recent 2017/18 tax year first, then deal with 2016/17, then 2015/16

2. For the 2017/18 tax year, please provide the breakdown of charitable donations/funding for each of the hospitals and, if possible, a breakdown for each department (some examples of departments are listed underneath my questions)

For example, in 2017/18, £10,000 of charitable donations/funding was received by the University Hospital of Wales' Gastrointestinal and Liver Services by the hospital league of friends.

If time still allows, please specify what the charitable donations/funding paid for, e.g. liver FibroScan machine

If time allows, please repeat information requested in question 2 for the 2016/17 tax year and for the 2017/18 tax year.

Response

1.
 - a) The Borders Health Board Endowment Fund's annual accounts detail the level of income from donations, legacies, fundraising and investments for each financial year. Annual Accounts are available online at: <https://www.thedifference.org.uk/trustees-and-publications/> therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this information is available elsewhere and we do not have to provide. Please note that annual accounts for 2017/18 are not yet available and will be submitted to the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator by 31 December 2018.

- b) Charitable Endowment Funds are processed through the NHS Scotland National Finance System. The system does not identify the source therefore this information is not held electronically. To collate this information would require a manual trawl of records which would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002, therefore under Section 12 of the FOI(S)A 2002 we are not required to provide.
 - c) Expenditure incurred by the Charity is in addition to the operating costs of core healthcare services, and as such the income is not shown as a percentage of NHS Borders core revenue budget.
2. A breakdown of donations provided to each department can be found within the Annual Accounts found on <https://www.thedifference.org.uk/trustees-and-publications/> therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this information is available elsewhere and we do not have to provide.

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 **163-18** 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.