

Freedom of Information request 249-18

Request

What taxi firm or firms do you currently use, and is this has changed since 2013, please state what toher firms have been used between 2013 and 2017?

Since January 1 2013 until December 31 2017, broken down per year:

How much has been spent on taxis by your health board in this time period?

How many times have taxis been used to transport patients?

How many times have taxis been used to transport staff?

How many times have taxis been used to transport hospital equipment?

How many times have taxis been used to transport organs?

How many times have taxis been used to transport case notes or documents?

If there are any taxi journeys of less than one mile taken in the time period please specify the reason for these journeys and the start and finish destination, as well as the date. (for example TRANSPORTING DOCUMENTS FROM GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY TO GARTNAVEL).

Response

NHS Borders has incurred the following spend on Taxis:

DATE	Total expenditure incurred
1st Jan 2013 to 31st Dec 2013	£138,120.78
1st Jan 2014 to 31st Dec 2014	£186,026.70
1st Jan 2015 to 31st Dec 2015	£224,984.69
1st Jan 2016 to 31st Jan 2016	£189,500.95
1st Jan 2017 to 31st Jan 2017	£203,020.86

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.

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 **249-18** 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.