

Freedom of Information request 452-18

Request

Please could you describe the provision of phlebotomy services by your Board?
In addition to District Nurses employed by the Health Board, please describe:

1. Are phlebotomy services provided by phlebotomists employed by the Health Board?
2. Are phlebotomy services provided directly by GP practices by phlebotomists employed by them and, if so, how are GPs remunerated for this?
3. How are blood samples transported from the point of collection to the laboratory for processing?
4. Do any phlebotomy services provided by your Health Board post blood samples to the laboratory for processing?

Response

1. Within the Borders General Hospital phlebotomy services are provided by phlebotomists employed by the Board.
2. As independent contractors GP practices may employ phlebotomists. Reimbursement for staffing costs to GP practices would be via the GMS contract.
3. Within Borders General Hospital, they are carried by phlebotomists, porters and ward staff. Samples from community sites are uplifted by NHS Borders staff.
4. No.

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 **452-18** 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.