

## Freedom of Information request 40-19

---

### Request

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act (2002) and hope you will be able to provide information electronically.

1. Does the health board use outside contractors for laundry services? If yes, please provide details.
2. The number of laundry staff employed by the health board (please provide both WTE and headcount), please detail figures over the last 5 years broken down by year.
3. Information regarding laundry staff absence, please detail figures over the last 5 years broken down by year, the number of working hours lost as a result, and the cost of wages paid out while staff are on sick leave.

### Response

1. NHS Borders does not use outside contractors for laundry services.

2 & 3 Please find below the number of laundry staff employed by the Health Board and the number of working hours lost due to sickness absence:

Year	WTE	Monthly Average Head Count	Sum of Hours Lost due to Sick Leave	Estimated Cost of Wages paid out for Sick Leave *
2014	25.82	28.25	1390.50	£13,099
2015	25.78	29.67	1067.00	£10,329
2016	25.76	30.17	1803.00	£19,112
2017	25.37	29.08	3043.50	£34,112
2018	25.13	29.08	2023.50	£23,695

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 **40-19** 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.