

## Freedom of Information request 156-19

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### Request

I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information as set out in my e-mail:-

1. NHS Patient Travel Annual Costs 2017/18 (i.e. Patient Transport Costs funded by your NHS Board
  - a) Budget – 2017/18 = £
  - b) Actual Year-End Spend 2017/18 = £
2. Please provide the following (cost) details if this is available: -
  - a) Car = £
  - b) Public Transport – Ferry = £
  - c) Public Transport – Bus = £
  - d) Taxis = £
  - e) Any other = £
  - f) Accommodation Costs = £
  - g) Administration Costs = £
  - h) Any other costs (please detail) = £
  - i) Total Costs (i.e. to equate to actual year-end spend 2017/18) = £
3. In 2017/18 - Number of Patient Journeys =  
  
and,  
  
Number of Nights away from place of residence =
4. NHS Patient Travel - Authorised Escorts
  - a) Budget – 2017/18 = £
  - b) Actual Year-End Spend 2017/18 = £
5. % of total NHS Patient Travel Budget
6. Please provide the following detail if this is available: -
  - a) Car = £
  - b) Public Transport – Ferry = £
  - c) Public Transport – Bus = £
  - d) Taxis = £
  - e) Any other = £
  - f) Accommodation Costs = £
  - g) Administration Costs = £
  - h) Any other costs (please detail) = £

- i) Total Costs (i.e. to equate to actual year-end spend 2017/18) = £
7. It is acknowledged that you may not set aside a separate budget for Patient Escorts as set out in the above level of detail, but it is hoped that you can provide the following (cost) details for the same period:
- a) Travel Costs for Escorts = £
  - b) Accommodation Costs for Escorts = £
  - c) Additional Administration Costs if any for Patient Escort Approvals = £
  - d) Any other costs (please detail) = £
  - e) Total Costs (i.e. actual year-end spend 2017/18 on Patient Escorts) = £
8. Number of Escort Journeys and Number of Escort Nights away from place of residence.
9. Total population served by the NHS Board for your area in 2017/18 and, if available:-
- a) total population aged 16 and under
  - b) total population aged 17 to 64
  - c) total population aged over 65

## Response

The Board processes reimbursement of Patient Travel costs through the submission of paper claims.

The Finance System does not record the individual details of the travel and/or accommodation costs being claimed, to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all 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

The total annual budget for patient travel & accommodation for 2017/18 was £212,391. Total expenditure incurred in 2017/18 was £514,687.

Please find below the total population as at mid 2017 for NHS Borders:

Ageband	Population
aged 16 & under	20215
17-64	67106
65 and over	27699
<b>Total</b>	<b>115020</b>

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 **156-19** 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.

