

Freedom of Information request 270-19

Request

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act (2002).

1. All recorded information about childcare assistance for health board employees and other staff working at health board sites.
2. Whether the health board provide nurseries and/or crèches onsite at hospital locations for staff use.
3. If onsite nurseries or crèches are provided,
 - a. The hours they are available for use.
 - b. All recorded information about the rules for access.

Response

1. Please find below data published on NHS Borders Intranet in relation to childcare assistance for health board employees:

“The Government recently introduced a new tax free childcare scheme for parents with children under the age of 12 (or 17 if disabled).

The Government has specified that you cannot use childcare vouchers at the same time as Tax Free Childcare and that over time, Tax Free Childcare will replace childcare voucher schemes. This means that the Childcare Voucher scheme is now closed to new entrants. For further information on the Government Scheme in Scotland, please go to:

<https://www.mygov.scot/childcare-costs-help/funded-early-learning-and-childcare/> “



Childcare Vouchers -
Intranet.pdf

2. There are no on site nurseries run by NHS Borders although there is one located adjacent to NHS Borders grounds that is run by a third party Busy Bees which employees can use.
3. This information is not held by NHS Borders but under Section 15 of the FOI(S)A Duty to provide advice and assistance please find a link to a website where this data is held -
<https://www.busybeeschildcare.co.uk/nursery/melrose>

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 **270-19** 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.