

Freedom of Information request 474-19

Request

Under FOI legislation could I please request the following?

How much your health board has spent on legal costs, including resolving patients complaints, in each year since 2014.

Response

The following table details the compensation/settlement and legal costs recorded by NHS Borders each financial year since 2014/15 as detailed in the Boards Annual Report and Accounts. The Board does not separately record the compensation/settlement figure from the legal costs for each claim so this information cannot be provided.

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Legal costs incurred	£2.685m	£1.143m	£0.442m	£0.353m	£0.526m

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 **474-19** 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.