

Freedom of Information request 250-22

Request

1. What information is held on the political affiliation of board members and senior staff within your organisation
2. The current annual cost of press and media for your organisation, and the total number of personnel employed to handle press and media for your organisation
3. What guidelines have been issued to your organisation by the Scottish Government on press releases and media

Response

1. Please find below a link to the NHS Borders website which holds information on any recorded political affiliation data for Board members and senior staff. Therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere,

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/corporate-information/about-the-board/board-member-register-of-interests/>

2. NHS Borders did not incur any spend on social media advertising, contractors or other outside bodies, software or subscriptions in the last financial year. We currently have 5 staff members, who as part of their more extensive communications role, deal with press and media enquiries. The cost of press and media handling cannot be separated out from employee roles therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.
3. NHS Borders do not hold any guidelines issued to the Communications team from Scottish Government on press releases and media.

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 **250-22** 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.

