

## Freedom of Information request 310-22

---

### Request

1: Who is the head of procurement responsible for approving Biomedical Science/Pathology agency usage at NHS Borders?

2: Who are the managers responsible for agency approval for Pathology/Laboratory agency usage (on and off framework) for the following departments at all hospitals associated with the Trust:

- Blood Sciences (Haematology, Biochemistry, and Blood Transfusion):
- Infectious Sciences (Microbiology, Virology, Molecular, Serology, COVID):
- Cellular Pathology

3: Please provide the contact numbers and email addresses in relation to question 1 and 2.

4: Have you used off-framework agency staff for Biomedical Science/Pathology between January 2021 and January 2022?

5: How much was your off-framework agency spend for each of the following departments between January 2021 and January 2022:

- (a) Blood Sciences (Haematology, Biochemistry and Blood Transfusion):
- (b) Infectious Sciences (Microbiology, Virology, Molecular, Serology, COVID):
- (c) Cellular Pathology

6: How many roles were filled by off-framework agency workers between January 2021 and January 2022 for each of the departments outlined in question 5?

7: How many unfilled roles did you have between January 2021 and January 2022 for each of the departments outlined in question 5?

### Response

1: The Clinical Service Manager.

2: The Laboratory Manager and Clinical Service Manager approve for Blood Sciences and Microbiology, we do not have a Cellular Pathology service on site.

3: The telephone numbers are 01896826238 and 01896827020.

4: Yes

5: (a) Blood Sciences (Haematology, Biochemistry and Blood Transfusion):

Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June for chemistry £42,900  
mar,apr,may,jun,jul,aug for Transfusion £42,900

(b) Infectious Sciences (Microbiology, Virology, Molecular, Serology, COVID): None

(c) Cellular Pathology Not applicable.

6: One within Chemistry and one within Blood Transfusion.

7: One vacancy and one maternity leave.

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 **310-22** 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.