

Freedom of Information request 411-22

Request

1. In this health board, what is the total size of the maintenance backlog? Please provide the estimated value of the work to be completed in pounds sterling as well as a breakdown of what work is outstanding, and the cost associated with undertaking that work. Please outline what date individual items of outstanding work were added to the maintenance list. Please also provide the total size of the maintenance backlog in pounds sterling at the end of the 2021/22 2020/21, 2019/2020, 2018/19 and 2017/18 financial years.
2. In this health board, if maintenance work is urgently required, but has not been actioned as yet, please highlight this in your response to the above question. If there is an estimated start date for this work, please outline this. If there is no estimated start date, please highlight this and provide a reason.
3. In this health board, are there concerns about the structural integrity of any part of the estate or any buildings at risk of collapse if maintenance work is not completed? If so, please outline whether work is planned or underway to avert the risk of collapse or further damage. If work is planned or underway to avert the risk of collapse, please outline what that work is.
4. In this health board, where there are concerns around the structural integrity of buildings, please outline the scale of expenditure on mitigating safety measures in the 2022/23 financial year so far. Please also provide the scale of expenditure on mitigating safety measures in the 2021/22, 2020/21, 2019/2020, 2018/19 and 2017/18 financial years.

Response

1. The Estates Asset Management System (EAMS) identifies that NHS Borders currently has a maintenance backlog of £21.5m.

The total value of the maintenance backlog for NHS Borders in the previous five financial years are:

Year	Backlog figure
2021/2022	£21.5m
2020/2021	This data is not recorded due to Covid-19, therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this is not held.
2019/2020	£16.6m
2018/2019	£13.7m
2017/2018	£8.4m

NHS Borders are currently updating our EAMS system and are unable to provide all data requested as we are working on a rolling basis with backlog spend, therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held. Moving forward we are more hopeful of having easier access to data as the national system that we use for our Estates and Asset Management has recently undergone a

procurement exercise with a view to being replaced/upgraded. The existing data provided reflects updates to March 2022:

2022/2023 Breakdown

No	Area	Description	Cost / spend (Projected)	Status
1	BGH & Community Hospitals	Fire safety remedial actions, maintenance & upgrades	£140,000.00	Work in progress
2	BGH	Ventilation maintenance & upgrades	£34,000.00	Work in progress
3	BGH & Community	Water safety remedial actions, maintenance & upgrades	£50,000.00	Work in Progress
4	BGH & Community	Electrical – Electrical Installation Condition Report (Scottish & Fire Rescue Service requirement)	£20,000.00	Work in progress
5	MRI	Ventilation upgrade	£155,000.00	Complete
6	BGH & Community	Building operations – car park, building fabric, roofing, window/door replacement etc.	£305,000.00	Work in progress
7	BGH	Flooring – repairs and upgrades	£32,000.00	Complete
8	BGH & Community	Boiler works and upgrades – sustainability and compliance	£120,000.00	Scoping / Work in progress
9	BGH & Community	Catering – software, repairs, upgrades, equipment replacement	£93,000.00	Work in progress
10	BGH	Drainage	£10,000.00	Work in progress
11	BGH & Community	Building management system maintenance and upgrades	£25,000.00	Work in progress
12	BGH	CCTV Maintenance & upgrades	£3,000.00	Work in progress
13	BGH	Electric vehicle charging – new infrastructure	£82,000.00	Work in progress
14	BGH	Cooling/Chilling – equipment replacement	60,000.00	Scoping stage
15	BGH & Community	Facilities - equipment replacement	10,000.00	TBC

**Note – the above figures are based on 22/23 spend; this is monitored on a regular basis throughout the financial year.

- NHS Borders routinely respond to urgent requests using our computer aided facilities management system. This records minor works requests, urgent priorities, etc. There is an ongoing backlog of minor works which is tracked through this system. Estimated start dates are only identified following assignment of job plans. This data is not held in a format that can be extracted and shared without significant additional work, therefore under Section 12 of the FOI(S)A 2002 we are unable to provide.

Major project work is evaluated through our capital planning group and is not routinely reported in this system. The larger areas of work required to align with the backlog has not yet been set, typically this is set in advance for the coming financial years. The start dates are normally prioritised against the levels of risk associated with each area / element.

- There are no identified areas where there is a structural issue which is considered high risk of potential collapse. We do have one facility which has been decommissioned due to subsidence and is not presently in use. No active plans are in place to restore or maintain this facility. It is under continuous monitoring and access to the site is restricted.
- NHS Borders have not identified any areas where there has been investment in actions to mitigate safety risks related to structural integrity during the period outlined. As part of on-going operational maintenance there may be some small scale expenditure to address minor issues (e.g. replacement of

roof tiles). This detail is not routinely reported, therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this is not held.

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 **411-22** 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.