

## Freedom of Information request 402-23

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### Request

Please can you provide the total spend on the international recruitment of nurses in the following financial periods:

1. For the financial year 21/22
2. For Quarters 1 and 2 of 22/23
3. For Quarters 3 and 4 of 22/23

Please can you also breakdown costs in terms of:

- Overseas trips
- Agency fees
- Flights
- Visas
- Expenses
- Living expenses for international recruits

### Response

The total spend by NHS Borders on the international recruitment of nurses is:

| Question | Financial Period    | Total Spend | Agency Fees | Travel to take up post | Visa and Sponsorship | Relocation Expenses | Other  |
|----------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------|
| 1        | 2021 - 2022         | £31,599     | Nil         | Nil                    | £31,194              | Nil                 | £405   |
| 2        | Q1 & Q2 2022 - 2023 | £84,293     | £19,600     | £4,550                 | £44,786              | £9,005              | £6,352 |
| 3        | Q3 & Q4 2022 - 2023 | £72,151     | £25,200     | £5,850                 | £28,791              | £8,737              | £3,573 |

### Please note:

- There is no specific category for overseas trips and living expenses within the NHS Borders financial system, therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. If any of these costs have been covered, they would be included in other categories shown.
- Flights are not recorded separately from other travel costs, therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. However, they will be included in the "Travel to take up post" column.

- Visa costs are not recorded separately, therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. However, they will be included in the “Visa and Sponsorship” column.
- “Other” information captures all costs not included within the named categories.

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 **402-23** 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.