

06/09/2023

## Freedom of Information request 621-23

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### Request

1. Please can you provide the last 3 years spend on specialist seating used for patients ie recliners and tilt in space chairs not general staff or waiting type seating, excluding VAT, broken down by year ie 2020, 2021 and 2022. There is no preference on if this is fiscal or calendar year.
2. In each of these years please could you highlight the 3 models you purchased/rented the most of by quantity
3. Do you purchase outright or rent/hire your specialist seating for the trust. If there is a mixture, please could you quantify the split per year for the last 3 years
4. Please confirm which manufacturers of specialist seating your organisation purchased/rented from ie Ocura, DHG, Seating Matters, Remtec, Vivid Care, Premiere, Felgains Formal, Caremed. If multiple suppliers, please could you outline the top 3 by spend per year for 3 the last 3 years
5. Are you currently in a specialist seating contract if so who is this with, when does this run to and is there an agreed extension in place
6. Within the last 12 months has there been any entry to the trusts risk register with regards to specialist seating and if so has this been resolved or still open
7. Please can you provide the details of your hospitals care or multidisciplinary team (MDT's) that collaborate to provide fundamental care for patients

### Response

1. Please find below the last 3 years spend on specialist seating:
  - a. FY 20/21 - £26,181
  - b. FY 21/22 - £20,543
  - c. FY 22/23 - £23,367
2. NHS Borders purchased mostly Renray chairs (BL300) – both low back and high back patient chairs. Rentals – we rent mostly bariatric chairs from Benmor (Aurum Riser Recliner).
3. NHS Borders only rent Bariatric chairs (below is the value of spend for bariatric rentals which is included in the overall figures in Question 1.)
  - a. FY20/21 - £1,126
  - b. FY21/22 - £10,263
  - c. FY22/23 - £13,694
4. NHS Borders purchase most of chairs from Renray (National Contract) and only rentals are Bariatric chairs from Benmor.
5. There is a National Contract for Furniture (Patient and Office Furniture). The contract period is 1/12/19 to 30/11/23. I am unaware of an extension as the contract is managed by National Procurement.

6. NHS Borders do not record patient or person-specific risk assessments within the Corporate Risk Register. These would be recorded in the patient's/staff members own files. A risk assessment regarding specialist seating would only be recorded on the Corporate Risk Register if this pertains to a patient group or a whole department. There have been no risk assessments recorded on the electronic risk management system of this type in the last twelve months.
7. All NHS Borders staff collaborate to provide fundamental care for patients. The Board Executive Team's purpose is to lead these staff; the following link shows the Leads for each service area - [Organisational-Structure.pdf \(scot.nhs.uk\)](#)

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 **621-23** 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.