

NHS BORDERS PUBLICATION SCHEME¹

**We are NHS Borders and this is our Publication Scheme
under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002**

Here you will find the information we publish about:

Who we are

What we do

The decisions we take

How to obtain information

24th May 2010

¹ Made under Section 24 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 covering Health Boards established under Section 2 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 ('the Act') or a Special Health Board created under Section 10(1) of the Act or by Statutory Orders made by Scottish Ministers under the Act.

Statement of availability of document in alternative formats

We recognise our obligations as a public authority under equality legislation to make information accessible to all sectors of the community and we will provide this information as audio recordings, large print, British Sign Language DVD and in Braille on request. We will also make the Scheme available in the following languages on request

- Polish
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Lithuanian
- Chinese – Cantonese

Please contact the Equality & Diversity Department, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA, telephone 01896 825502 or equality@borders.scot.nhs.uk

關於文件是否有其他格式的聲明 [Cantonese]

作為一個公共機構，我們認識到我們有義務遵照法律平等的規定讓社區的所有群體獲得資訊，因此我們將按照用戶的要求以錄音、大字體印刷、英國手語DVD和盲文版等格式提供這一資訊。我們還將按照用戶的要求用下列語言執行這一方案：

- ☐ 波蘭語
- ☐ 葡萄牙語
- ☐ 俄語
- ☐ 立陶宛語
- ☐ 中文——粵語

請聯絡平等與多元化部：Equality & Diversity Department, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA, 電話：01896 825502 或 equality@borders.scot.nhs.uk

Pareiškimas apie galimybę gauti dokumentus kitokia forma [Lithuanian]

Mes pripažįstame savo, kaip valstybinės valdžios įstaigos pareigą, kurią mums numatė lygybės įstatymai, pasirūpinti, kad informacija būtų prieinama visiems bendruomenės sektoriams, todėl mes pateiksime šią informaciją audio įrašuose, atspausdintą didelėmis raidėmis, Britanijos ženklų kalbos DVD ir Brailio šriftu. Paprašius, mes taip pat pasirūpinsime, kad su projektu būtų galima susipažinti šiomis kalbomis:

- Lenkų
- Portugalų
- Rusų
- Lietuvių
- Kinų - Kantoniečių

Prašom kreiptis į Lygybės ir įvairovės departamentą - Equality & Diversity Department, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA, telefonas 01896 825502; el. paštas equality@borders.scot.nhs.uk

Oświadczenie o dostępności dokumentu w innych formatach [Polish]

Zdajemy sobie sprawę z naszych zobowiązań jako instytucji publicznej wynikających z przepisów o równouprawnieniu, zgodnie z którymi informacje należy udostępniać wszystkim sektorom społeczności. Informacje te udostępnimy na żądanie w postaci nagrań audio, powiększoną czcionką, brytyjskim języku migowym, na płycie DVD oraz w formacie Braille'a.

Dokument udostępnimy również na żądanie w następujących językach:

- polski
- portugalski
- rosyjski
- litewski
- chiński – kantoński

Prosimy o kontakt z Oddziałem ds. Równouprawnienia i Różnorodności, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA, telefon 01896 825502 lub equality@borders.scot.nhs.uk

Declaração de disponibilidade de documento em formatos alternativos [Portuguese]

Em reconhecimento dos nossos deveres enquanto instituição pública e de acordo com a legislação em matéria de igualdades em tornar informação acessível a todos os sectores da comunidade, proporcionamos esta informação em gravação áudio, impressão aumentada, linguagem gestual britânica, DVD e Braille quando solicitado.

Disponibilizamos também o Programa nos seguintes idiomas quando solicitado:

- Polaco
- Português
- Russo
- Lituano
- Chinês – Cantonês

Por favor contacte o Departamento de Igualdade e Diversidade (Equality & Diversity Department), NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA, telefone 01896 825502 ou email equality@borders.scot.nhs.uk

Заявление о доступности документа в альтернативных форматах [Russian]

Как государственная организация мы признаем свои обязательства, согласно законам о равноправии, предоставлять данную информацию в формате доступном для всех секторов общества и будем, по запросу, предоставлять ее в виде звуковых записей, в виде крупноформатной печати, на DVD-диске с переводом на британский язык жестов и на алфавите Брайля.

Также по запросу мы можем организовать перевод данной схемы на следующие языки:

- польский;
- португальский;
- русский;
- литовский;
- китайский (кантонский диалект).

Пожалуйста, обращайтесь в отдел Равноправия и разнообразия - Equality & Diversity Department, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA, тел.: 01896 825502. эл. почты: equality@borders.scot.nhs.uk

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Section 1 - Introduction to the Publication Scheme

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) provides individuals with a general right of access to all recorded information held by Scottish public authorities. Anyone can use this right, and we can only withhold information where FOISA expressly permits it.

Section 23 of FOISA also requires Scottish public authorities to maintain a Publication Scheme. A Publication Scheme sets out the types of information that a public authority routinely makes available and is subject to approval by the Scottish Information Commissioner, who is responsible for enforcing FOISA. We are obliged to review this Scheme from time to time.

The aim of the Publication Scheme is to provide you with access to information that we routinely publish and demonstrate our openness and transparency in the decisions we take. The scheme tells you how you can access this information. It tells you whether information is available free, or if there is a charge for the information. Our aim is to make information we hold easily available and to explain how you may access this information, including details of:-

- (a) the services that we provide, the costs of those services, and their availability;
- (b) the facts, consultation and analysis we have taken into account to reach decisions; and
- (c) the reasons for decisions made.

Alongside FOISA, the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (the EIRs) provide a separate right of access to the environmental information that we hold. Environmental information may include, for example, information on the air, water, soil and land and about energy, noise, radiation, waste and other things that may affect the earth. It also may include information about our policies, plans and activities likely to affect the state of human health and safety – for example, the cleanliness of our premises and control of infection. This publication scheme also contains details of the environmental information that we routinely make available.

Where information is not published under this scheme, you can request it from us under FOISA or, in the case of environmental information, the EIRs.

This scheme does not cover personal information we hold, for example health or employee records. There are separate laws about how individuals access their own personal information. See section 11 for more details.

This scheme will be subject to review from time to time by us in order to keep it up to date. In addition, the Scheme has to be completely reviewed and re-submitted to the Scottish Information Commissioner for re-approval periodically. It is expected that the next complete review will be in 2014.

Section 2 - About NHS Borders

The NHS in Scotland is a large and complex collection of organisations for which the Scottish Government and the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing have overall responsibility.

Health Boards and Special Health Boards are created by Acts of the Scottish Parliament and are individual corporate bodies. There are fourteen Geographic Health Boards operating across defined geographic areas (largely based on one or more local authority area). There are also eight Special Health Boards which provide services on a national basis.

Legislation approved by the Scottish Parliament determines the membership of individual Boards.

The Board Membership comprises a Chairman and others appointed by the Scottish Ministers. The composition of individual Boards will vary but each Board may contain, depending on local circumstances:

- (a) directly elected members*;
- (b) Councillors nominated by local authorities within the Health Board area;
- (c) a representative of a University Medical School;
- (d) an individual representing the employees of the Health Board, known as the Employee Director;
- (e) A member of a body set up by the Health Board which represents health care professionals working in the Health Board area;
- (f) those appointed from the senior employees, known as Executive Directors;
- (g) Members of a Community Health Care Partnership; and
- (h) those who have applied to the Scottish Government for appointment following public advertisement.

*Under the Health Boards (Membership and Elections) (Scotland) Act 2009 approved in April 2009, Scottish Ministers have power to arrange for a proportion of members of Health Boards to be elected by those aged 16 and above who, were they 18 or above have a right to vote at local authority elections. Elections to Health Board are being progressed on a pilot basis initially.

Through instructions and guidance issued by the Scottish Ministers, Health Boards are responsible for implementing national health service policy and for providing services for the treatment of illness and the promotion of good health to the population of Scotland.

The fourteen Health Boards operating across defined geographic areas are responsible for local health planning and improvement and for the delivery of hospital, community and primary care services. How these services are organised and delivered will vary between Boards.

Community Health Partnerships, or Community Health and Care Partnerships, may be established under Statutory Orders made by the Scottish Ministers to manage certain functions of the Board. Further information on the role of individual Community Health and Care Partnerships can be found at http://www.nhsborders.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0011/11126/CHCP-Gov-Arr-May-

[2009-3.pdf](#) or e-mail foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk, telephone 01896 825520 or write to Public Involvement & Communications, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA.

Health Boards also work with independent NHS doctors, dentists, pharmacists and opticians who are contracted by the Board to provide primary health care services to the local population. These people are known as primary care contractors or General Practitioners (GPs). General Practitioners are subject to FOISA but are not covered by this Scheme as they have their own practice-based schemes. We tell you how to find details of these independent practitioners in Section 12 Class (g) below.

The fourteen geographical Health Boards are:-

Ayrshire & Arran
Borders
Dumfries & Galloway
Fife
Forth Valley
Grampian
Greater Glasgow (commonly known as NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde)
Highland
Lanarkshire
Lothian
Orkney
Shetland
Tayside
Western Isles

The seven Special Health Boards which provide services on a national basis are:

NHS Quality Improvement Scotland ²
NHS Health Scotland
NHS Education for Scotland
The National Waiting Times Centre Board (commonly known as The Golden Jubilee National Hospital)
Scottish Ambulance Service Board
The State Hospitals Board for Scotland
NHS 24

The Common Services Agency (known as NHS National Services Scotland) provides support functions to the NHS in Scotland through the delivery of a range of national and specialist services e.g. providing legal services for the NHS, and collection of national data and statistics.

NHS Borders is a geographical Health Board which:

- has its main office at Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA

² A Bill introduced before the Scottish Parliament in May 2009 proposes that NHS Quality Improvement Scotland will become part of a new organisation to be known as Health Improvement Scotland from April 2011.

- covers the Scottish Borders area
- is responsible providing a comprehensive range of high quality health services in both hospital and community facilities. We also have a duty to protect public health throughout the Scottish Borders.
- works in co-operation with other Boards in providing various regional or specialist functions through the South East & Tayside (SEAT) regional planning group. SEAT is the collaborative mechanism between NHS Borders, Lothian, Fife, Forth Valley and Tayside for planning services which span more than one Health Board area and where there is benefit to patients in a partnership approach, for example, cancer services, cardiac services and children's services.

We are primarily responsible for:

- Protecting and improving the health of the people of the Scottish Borders.
- Providing hospital, community and primary care services.
- Developing a Local Delivery Plan to address the health priorities and health care needs of the population of the Scottish Borders.
- Allocating resources to address local priorities in accordance with Borders NHS Board's strategic objectives and the performance management of the local health system.

The main governing Body of NHS Borders is the Board which comprises a Chair, eight Executive Directors and eight other Members who have overall responsibility for the strategic decisions and management of the organisation.

The categories of members for Borders NHS Board are:-

- One Councillor nominated by the local authority.
- One Employee Director representing the employees.
- Eight Executive Directors.
- One representative of the professional advisory committees.
- Six members appointed following public advertisement.

A variety of Groups and Committees are responsible to the Board for specific functions.

Further information on the Committee Structure is provided under Section 12 Class (a) below.

Operational management of the Board is the responsibility of the Chief Executive and Principal Directors. Further details are available under Section 12 Class (a).

The Scottish Borders Community Health and Care Partnership (CHCP) is a joint planning and service delivery partnership accountable to NHS Borders and Scottish Borders Council. The CHCP is made up of senior officers from both NHS Borders and Scottish Borders Council and is responsible for service delivery, service redesign and development and performance management for the following jointly managed services:

- Learning Disability Services
- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Children & Young Peoples Services

The following are also areas which are under the remit of the CHCP

- Health Improvement
- Alcohol & Drug Services
- Housing Strategy
- Data Sharing

For further information about the Scottish Borders CHCP contact the Public Involvement & Communications Team at foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk or by telephone on 01896 825520 or write to Public Involvement & Communications, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA.

Section 3 - Preparing the Publication Scheme

We have adopted a Model Publication Scheme developed by a small representative working group of staff with FOI responsibilities with the endorsement of the Chief Executives of Health Boards. The Model is based on a generic template published by the Scottish Information Commissioner. In preparing the Model Scheme we have sought to ensure that the Scheme has regard to the public interest in providing access to the information that we hold which relates to:

- the services we provide;
- the costs of those services;
- the standard of those services
- the facts that inform the important decisions we take; and
- the reasoning behind our decisions.

The working group has, as part of its work, consulted with:

- the 22 Health Boards who have been encouraged to engage with their Patient Focus and Public Involvement representatives (or equivalent)
- the Scottish Health Council
- the Scottish Patients' Association
- the Equality and Human Rights Commission for Scotland
- Consumer Focus Scotland
- the Scottish Government
- Members of the Scottish Parliament.

In preparing the Scheme authorities have also undertaken a review of the type of information commonly requested from Health Boards under Section 1 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 in recent years. This has helped us decide on the content of this Publication Scheme.

Section 4 - Accessing Information under The Scheme

Information under this Publication Scheme will normally be available through the routes described below. *Section 12 – Classes of Information* - provides more details on the information available under the scheme.

Online:

Most information listed in our Publication Scheme is available to download from our website using the following address: nhsborders.org.uk. Often a link within *Section 12: Classes of Information* will take you direct to the relevant page or document. Where no such link is present, you can use our website's "Search" facility at <http://www.nhsborders.org.uk/key-documents>. If you are still having trouble finding any information listed under our scheme, then please contact Public Involvement & Communications (see below for details) for further assistance giving as much detail as you can about the information you are seeking.

By e-mail:

If the information you are looking for is listed in our Publication Scheme but is not published on our website, you can request that information by e-mailing us at foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk. We will usually be able to send you the information you are looking for by email. When requesting information from us, please provide a telephone number so that we can telephone you to clarify details, if necessary.

By phone:

You can also request information by phone. Please call Public Involvement & Communications on 01896 825520 to request information available under this scheme.

By post:

To obtain information listed under the scheme as a printed document or other format by post, please send your request to: Public Involvement & Communications, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA.

When writing to us to request information, please include your name, address and phone number and full details of the information you would like to receive. We may need to phone you to clarify the information you want.

Advice and assistance:

If you are unsure what the information that you want to access might be called, then please contact Public Involvement & Communications who will be happy to help.

Section 5 - Information that we may withhold

All information covered by our Publication Scheme can either be accessed through our website, or will be provided promptly following our receipt of your request.

Our aim in maintaining this Publication Scheme is to be as open as possible. You should note, however, that there might be limited circumstances where we may withhold information listed in *Section 12 – Classes of Information*. Information will only be withheld where FOISA (or in the case of environmental information, the Environment Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004) expressly permits it being withheld.

We may withhold information, for example, where its disclosure would breach the law of

confidentially, harm an individual's or an organisation's commercial interests, or endanger the protection of the environment. Information may also be withheld if it is another person's personal information, and its release would breach data protection legislation. This would include, for example, access to personal information contained within health records and other documents.

Whenever information is withheld we will inform you of this, and we will tell you why that information cannot be given to you. If we believe that some of the information you have requested cannot be disclosed under the Act, we may be able to provide you with some of the information which is sought, with the information which is withheld under FOISA removed.

If you wish to complain about our withholding information, please refer to Section 10 – Complaints relating to the Publication Scheme.

Section 6 – Charges for information available under the Publication Scheme

All the information described in our scheme is available from us free of charge where it can be downloaded from our website or where it can be sent to you electronically by e-mail unless a specific charge is stated in *Section 12 – Classes of Information*.

We reserve the right to impose charges for providing information in paper copy or on a computer disc. Charges will reflect the actual costs of production and postage to us, as set out below.

In the event that a charge is to be made, you will be advised of the charge and how it has been calculated. Information will not be provided to you until payment has been received.

Under the Disability Discrimination Act we have a duty to provide services, including making information physically accessible when providing it. This may involve producing it in a larger type or different format where it is practicable to do so. We will meet the cost of this.

Reproduction costs:

Photocopied information will be charged at a standard rate of 10p per A4 copy (black and white) and 20p per A4 copy (colour). Electronic media will be charged at the rate of £1.00 per computer disc.

Postage cost:

We will pass on postage charges to you at the cost to us of sending the information by the method we normally employ for our routine correspondence. We may use a range of methods and carriers to deliver routine correspondence, but it should not cost you more than the equivalent of Royal Mail First Class postal rates. We will always tell you

what the cost is before providing the information requested.

Individually priced publications:

There are also a small number of publications for which we make a pre-determined cover charge. This cover charge reflects the cost to us of producing the information in the published format. The Scottish Information Commissioner has individually approved any such cover charges appearing in this Publication Scheme. These publications will be charged at the cover price, and actual postage costs, by the method we normally employ for our routine correspondence as described above.

Details of any individual charges which differ from the above charging policy are provided within *Section 12 – Classes of Information*.

Section 7 - Our Copyright Policy

NHS Borders holds the copyright for the vast majority of information in this Publication Scheme. All of this information can be copied or reproduced without our formal permission, provided it is copied or reproduced accurately, is not used in a misleading context, is not used for profit, and provided that the source of the material is identified.

Providing access to information does not mean that copyright has been waived, nor does it give the recipient the right to re-use information for commercial purposes. If you intend to re-use information obtained from the Scheme, and you are unsure whether you have the right to do so, please make a request to Public Involvement & Communications to re-use the information. Your request will be considered under the **Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005** which may provide the right to impose a charge. In the event that a charge is payable you will be advised what this is and how it is calculated. If you require more information on the re-use of information go to www.oqps.gov.uk or contact Public Involvement & Communications at the Board (contact details on page 5).

The Publication Scheme may contain information where the copyright holder is not NHS Borders. In most cases, the copyright holder will be obvious from the documents. In cases where the copyright is unclear it is the responsibility of the person accessing the information to locate and seek the permission of the copyright holder before reproducing the material or in any other way breaching the rights of the copyright holder. This includes, for example, Ordnance Survey Maps which are Crown Copyright. Wherever possible, this scheme will indicate where we do not own the copyright on documents within *Section 12 – Classes of Information*.

Section 8 - Our Records Management and Disposal Policy

Information falling into the Classes will be retained in line with the NHS Borders Records Management Policy.

http://www.nhsborders.org.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/10887/080710_Records_Man_Policy_Final-.pdf

Normally documents provided via web-based resources are retained in that format for a limited period (this may vary depending on the type of document – for more details contact Public Involvement & Communications on 01896 825520 or email foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk) but will be available subsequently on application to the contact at Section 4. Content of web pages generally will be revised periodically as required to ensure that information and guidance is current.

Health Boards are required to comply with guidance issued by the Scottish Government on the retention and destruction of records. The current Code of Practice is referred to within Circular NHS CEL (2008) 28, available at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/07/01082955/10>

Section 9 - Feedback

FOISA requires that we review our Publication Scheme from time to time. As a result, we welcome feedback on how we can develop our scheme further. If you would like to comment on any aspect of this Publication Scheme, then please contact us. You may, for example, wish to tell us about:

- other information that you would like to see included in the Publication Scheme;
- whether you found the Publication Scheme easy to use;
- whether you found the Publication Scheme useful;
- whether our staff were helpful;
- other ways in which our Publication Scheme can be improved.

Please send any comments or suggestions to Public Involvement & Communications, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA or by e-mail to foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk or telephone 01896 825520

Section 10 - Complaints relating to the Publication Scheme

Our aim is to make our Publication Scheme as user-friendly as possible, and we hope that you find it easy to access all the information we publish. If you do wish to complain about any aspect of the Publication Scheme, please contact us, and we will try to resolve your complaint as quickly as possible. You can contact Public Involvement & Communications, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA or by e-mail to foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk or telephone 01896 825520

We will acknowledge your complaint and will respond in full within twenty working days.

You also have legal rights to access information under this scheme and a right of appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner if you are dissatisfied with our response. These rights apply only to requests for information made in writing* or another recordable format. If you are unhappy with our responses to your request, you can ask us to review our decision by writing to Public Involvement & Communications, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA or by e-mail to foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk or telephone 01896 825520 and if you are still

unhappy following review of your request, you can make an appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

The Commissioner's website has a guide to this three-step process or, you can contact his office, Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm. His office can be contacted as follows:

Scottish Information Commissioner

Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS

Tel: 01334 464610
Email: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info
Website: www.itspublicknowledge.info

*verbal requests for environmental information carry similar rights.

Section 11 - How to access Information which is not available under this Scheme

If the information you are seeking is not available under this Publication Scheme, then you may wish to request it from us.

- (a) The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002** (FOISA) provides you with a right of access to the information we hold, subject to certain exemptions, providing that request is made in writing or other recordable format.
- (b) The Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004** (EIRs) separately provide a right of access to the environmental information we hold.

Under either the FOISA or the EIRs should you require any information that we hold that is not available under this scheme please contact us via Public Involvement & Communications, NHS Borders, Newstead, Melrose, Roxburghshire, TD6 9DA or by e-mail to foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk or by telephone on 01896 825520.

- (c) The Data Protection Act 1998** (DPA) provides a right of access to any personal information about you that we hold. Again, these rights are subject to certain exceptions or exemptions. We may hold personal information about many individuals. Generally, information of this nature should be requested under the Data Protection Act, rather than FOISA, and it is not covered by this scheme.

If you wish to access your health records, we would advise you initially to ask the doctor or other healthcare professional responsible for your care. More information about the protection of personal health information and your right to access information in your health records is available from the following link <http://www.hris.org.uk/index.aspx?o=1026> or contact Information Governance,

NHS Borders, Westgrove, Waverley Road, Melrose, TD6 9SJ or e-mail
data.protection@borders.scot.nhs.uk or telephone 01896 825599.

Charges for information which is not available under the scheme:

If you submit a request to us for information which **is not** available under the Scheme, we reserve the right to charge based on the following calculations:

(a) under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002:

- There will be no charge for requests for information which cost us £100 or less to process.
- Where information costs between £100 and £600 to provide you may be asked to pay 10% of the cost. That is, if you were to ask for information that cost us £600 to provide, you would be asked to pay £50, calculated on the basis of no charge for the first £100 of costs and 10% of the remaining £500.
- We are not obliged to respond to requests for information which will cost us over £600 to process.
- In calculating any fee, the cost of staff time in locating, retrieving or providing the information will not exceed £15 per hour per member of staff.
- We do not charge for the time taken to determine whether we hold the information requested, nor for the time it takes to decide whether the information can be released. Charges may be made for locating, retrieving and providing information to you.
- In the event that we decide to impose a charge we will issue you with notification of the charge (a fees notice) and explain how it has been calculated. You will have three months from the date of issue of the fees notice in which to decide whether to pay the charge to obtain the information. The information will be provided to you on payment of the charge. If you decide not to proceed with the request there will be no cost to you.

(b) Charges for environmental information under the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004:

We do not charge for the time taken to determine whether we hold the information requested, nor for the time it takes to decide whether the information can be released. We also do not charge for locating or retrieving the information, but we may charge for providing it to you.

In the event that we decide to impose a charge we will issue you with notification of the charge and how it has been calculated. The information will be provided to you on payment of the charge. If you decide not to proceed with the request for information there will be no charge to you.

We will calculate the charges based on the actual cost to us of providing the information.

- Photocopying is charged at 10p per A4 side for black and white copying, 20p per A4 side for colour copying
- We will pass on postage charges to you at the cost to us of sending the

information by the method we normally employ for our routine correspondence. We may use a range of methods and carriers to deliver routine correspondence, but it should not cost you more than the equivalent of Royal Mail First Class postal rates.

- the cost of staff time in locating, retrieving or providing the information will not exceed £15 per hour per member of staff.

The first £100 worth of information will be provided to you without charge.

Where information costs between £100 and £600 to provide, you will be asked to pay 10% of the cost. That is, if you were to ask for information that cost us £600 to provide, you would be asked to pay £50, calculated on the basis of no charge for the first £100 of costs and 10% of the remaining £500.

Where it would cost more than £600 to provide the information to you, we will ask you to pay the full cost of providing the information.

We will always inform you of the costs involved before providing the information.

Section 12 - Classes of Information

A list of the documents which are currently available electronically, together with the relevant link, is available at <http://www.nhsborders.org.uk/footer/freedom-of-information/publication-scheme>

(a) Who we are and what we do	<p>Information about our Board, its membership, where our main offices are located and what services we provide. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main contact details of our headquarters and services • Details of Board Members and Executive Directors, and their contact details • Board Members Declarations of Interest and their Register of Gifts and Hospitality • Board Members' Code of Conduct • Schedule of forthcoming Board meeting dates • Board Standing Orders for the Conduct of Business • Data on our population by age range, gender and incidence of disease. • Organisational management structures • What we do – the services we provide. • Agreements with other Health Boards or other public authorities for the provision of services
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<p>(b) Policy and decision making</p>	<p>Information about how we make decisions and develop policies which support the services we provide. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Delivery Plans • Board agendas and papers for past meetings and minutes of those meetings which have been approved by the Board • All policies approved by, or on behalf of, the Board For example: Health & Occupational Safety Policies Patient Safety Policies Recruitment Policies Corporate Management Policies Data Management Policies • Schemes of Delegation • Equality and Diversity scheme • Committee structures • Local Drug Formulary This item is not available in an electronic format and a charge of £6.60 plus £3.40 packaging and postage will be made for the pre-printed copy, alternatively extracts from the formulary can be obtained charged at 10p per sheet' • Information about the Scottish Medicines Consortium and its decisions http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/smc/27.html
<p>(c) How we communicate</p>	<p>Information about how we communicate with the public, staff and others. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press and media releases • News publications, including Newsletters, magazines and annual reports • Information on how to make a Freedom of Information request • Information on how to access your personal information • Patient information leaflets on health conditions • Public consultation and engagement including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the principles of consultation adopted by the Board, ○ lists of specific consultations, ○ consultation documents, ○ copies of consultation responses and ○ decisions arising from consultation once made.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient complaints procedure • Patient rights, including access to advocacy services • How to access sign language and interpreting services
(d) Where we get money to pay for services, and how our spending is monitored	<p>Information on current and past expenditure on services and functions, including how we fund our services against agreed budgets and how the spending of available finance is monitored. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standing Financial Instructions (SFIs) which describe the rules and procedures that must be followed in committing and accounting for expenditure. • Annual revenue budget plans and regular monitoring reports showing actual expenditure against budget plans • Current capital expenditure plans • External financial audits • Audited Annual Accounts • Board Members' and Executive Directors' remuneration • Sums paid to individual Board Members and Executive Directors in previous financial years as expenses. • Procurement procedures • Details of Service specifications, appraisals and contracts for works and services which are required to be subject to competition under rules made by the European Union • Approved outline and Full Business Cases for Capital Schemes • Public Finance Initiative (PFI) contracts (These may be subject to removal of data where an exemption applies e.g. disclosure would disclose trade secrets or prejudice substantially the commercial interests of any party) • Services which the Board has contracted out to third party suppliers including the value of such contracts. (These may be subject to removal of data where an exemption applies e.g. disclosure would disclose trade secrets or prejudice substantially the commercial interests of any party)
(e) How are we doing?	<p>Information about our performance. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports on the Annual Accountability Review Meeting with the Scottish Government • Director of Public Health's Annual Reports • Reports on Board's Annual performance against Scottish

	<p>Government HEAT targets covering: Health Improvement; Efficiency and Governance; Access to Services; and Treatment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Risk Register • Scottish Public Service Ombudsman findings and our responses • Compliance with Scottish Government waiting times targets for clinical appointments and compliance statistics and equivalent performance criteria for Special Health Boards. • Key Performance Indicators and more detailed HEAT performance reports • External audit reports • Complaints statistics • NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (QIS) reports on the services we provide • Local reports on compliance with QIS Standards for HAI (Healthcare Associated Infections) Infection Control • Annual Reports on incident reporting statistics • Environmental Inspection Reports on our Premises
(f) Our staff – their wellbeing and development	<p>Information about how we plan the recruitment of staff and look after their health, safety, welfare and development. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment policies • Staff governance audits and action plans • Area/Staff Partnership Forum minutes • Workforce Plans • Code of conduct for staff • Annual staff absence rates • Register of Staff Interests • Register of Gifts and Hospitality
(g) How to find our services	<p>Information about how to locate health services. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directions and maps to main hospitals • Description of the services provided by Community Health and Care Partnerships

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directory of Health Centres and Clinic Premises [if applicable] • Self-referral/open access services, for example family planning. • Information on how to find health services provided by – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General Medical Practitioners ○ Dentists ○ Pharmacies ○ Opticians
(h) Improving the quality of care to patients	<p>Information about how we strive to improve our services and enhance the quality of patient care. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Patient Safety Programme reports as they are published • Annual Clinical Governance report • Clinical effectiveness reports • Approved Service redesign plans
(i) Clinical research and development	<p>Information about Board Clinical research and development activities. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics Committee annual report • Research and Development Strategy • Research ethics approval procedures • Policy on the Use of Patient Tissue and Samples