

Dr Robert S. Coull  
What Do They Know.com

Date 1 October 2018

Your Ref

Our Ref FOI 0004307

Enquiries to Hilary Chalmers

Extension fv-uhb.freedomofinformation@nhs.net

Direct Line 01786 433284

By Email

Dear Dr Coull

**Request for Information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002**

We write in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act.

*Please could you describe the provision of phlebotomy services by your Board?*

**Response:** All surgical and medical inpatient areas are covered Monday - Friday 0730-1130 with a follow up service till 1530. Saturday/Sunday reduced service - this will change in next month as additional staff currently undergoing training.

*In addition to District Nurses employed by the Health Board, please describe:*

*1. Are phlebotomy services provided by phlebotomists employed by the Health Board?*

**Response:** Yes

*2. Are phlebotomy services provided directly by GP practices by phlebotomists employed by them and, if so, how are GPs remunerated for this?*

**Response:** Phlebotomy staff are directly employed by GP Practices. The running costs of GP Practices including the salary costs of staff that they employ are funded from the income that the Practice receives under the General Medical Services contract.

*3. How are blood samples transported from the point of collection to the laboratory for processing?*

**Response:** Within Forth Valley Royal Hospital samples are transported by the pod system or hand delivered by porter staff on request by the phlebotomists. Community Hospitals collected by van

*4. Do any phlebotomy services provided by your Health Board post blood samples to the laboratory for processing?*

**Response:** No

Chairman: Alex Linkston CBE  
Chief Executive: Cathie Cowan

Forth Valley NHS Board is the common name for Forth Valley Health Board  
Registered Office: Carseview House, Castle Business Park, Stirling, FK9 4SW  
[www.nhsforthvalley.com](http://www.nhsforthvalley.com)  Facebook.com/nhsforthvalley  @nhsforthvalle

We trust this is to your satisfaction. However, under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 if you are dissatisfied with our response you are entitled to request a review. A request for review must be made in writing to Miss Deirdre Coyle, Head of Information Governance, NHS Forth Valley, CSD, Colquhoun Street, Stirling, FK7 7PX or [fv-uhb.freedomofinformation@nhs.net](mailto:fv-uhb.freedomofinformation@nhs.net), no later than forty working days from receipt of the response. Your request must be in permanent form and should state:

- That you are asking for a review of this decision and
- Why you are unhappy with the response you have received.

If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to ask for advice, assistance or a formal appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS or [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal)

Please feel free to contact us should you require any further advice or assistance.

Yours sincerely

Hilary Chalmers  
Lead Freedom of Information Officer