

## Information Governance

Medical Directorate  
NHS Grampian  
Rosehill House  
Foresterhill Site  
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BY EMAIL  
Dr Robert Coull  
[request-518699-  
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Date	9 October 2018
Our Ref	FOI/2018/614
Enquiries to	Information Governance Team
Extension	51319
Direct Line	01224 551319
Email	<a href="mailto:nhsq.foi@nhs.net">nhsq.foi@nhs.net</a>

Dear Dr Coull

### **Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002**

I refer to your e-mail 9 September 2018, requesting:

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

- 1. Are phlebotomy services provided by phlebotomists employed by the Health Board?*
- 2. Are phlebotomy services provided directly by GP practices by phlebotomists employed by them and, if so, how are GPs remunerated for this?*
- 3. How are blood samples transported from the point of collection to the laboratory for processing?*
- 4. Do any phlebotomy services provided by your Health Board post blood samples to the laboratory for processing?"*

I can now respond as follows:

**In addition to District Nurses employed by the Health Board, please describe:  
Are phlebotomy services provided by phlebotomists employed by the Health Board?**

There is a hospital phlebotomy service covering Aberdeen Royal Infirmary which is funded from that part of the Acute Sector covering a proportion of the bloods taken within that hospital.

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

The Global sum funding and other elements paid to GP Practices as part of their contract is a total sum to cover the running costs of the practice. This includes the drawings of partners and all other salary costs and consumables. The practice chooses how they wish to staff the service themselves.

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

Blood samples from all Primary Care practices except one are transported to laboratories by a contracted courier service via a daily Monday to Friday collection

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

NHS Grampian is not aware of blood samples being posted to Laboratory Medicine.

Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Grampian has dealt with your request, you have a right to request a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request, and you have a right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

A request for review must be made within 40 working days and should, in the first instance, be in writing to: Directorate of Corporate Communications, Foresterhill House, Foresterhill, Aberdeen, AB25 2ZB or by email to [grampian@nhs.net](mailto:grampian@nhs.net)

Requests for appeal can be made by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's online service at [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal) or should be made in writing to: Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS Telephone: 01334 464610, Fax: 01334 464611.

Yours sincerely



**Roohi Bains**  
**Acting Information Governance Manager**  
**NHS Grampian**