

Dr Peter J Gordon

Email: request-163099-d1bf8032@whatdotheyknow.com

Date: 20 June 2013
Your Ref:
Our Ref: 389
Enquiries to: P Maitland-Cullen
Direct Line: 0131 623 4605
Email: patrick.maitland-
cullen@nhs.net

Dear Dr Gordon

Register of payments

In your freedom of information request received on 29 May you wrote:

“Hospital Boards are reportedly meant to keep a register of payments from pharmaceutical companies (and other relevant companies) to staff, in case of conflicts of interest. I am (1) requesting a copy of the register for this Board - which I would hope includes details of all relevant payments to staff and any related potential conflicts of interest.

If it would be possible to have this information in an appropriate structured data format - for example, a CSV file - this would be helpful.

If this Board does not have a complete register, I would request: (2) the release of the information on this topic that the Board does hold; and (3) an explanation of why the Board does not hold a complete register.”

In response

Please find the requested information below, and accompanying this letter.

All Healthcare Improvement Scotland staff

There is a nil return on staff receiving payment from a pharmaceutical company. This return includes staff working in both the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN), and Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC).

Please find attached the register for financial year 2013 to 2014:

- Register of gifts and hospitality.pdf

Please also find our employee code of conduct attached. Section 35 sets out the conditions on accepting additional employment:

- Employee Code of Conduct (updated).pdf

Board members' register of interests

Please find attached for information the register of interests for financial year 2013 to 2014. The register includes senior staff members, and it should be noted that for this group there is no pharmaceutical company-related return:

- Board register 2013 to 2014.pdf

This information is also available online, along with the Board members' code of conduct, at:

www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/about_us/our_board.aspx

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have a right under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 to ask for an independent review within Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

Review requests must be made within 40 days of either (a) the 20th day after the submission of the request or (b) the date on which the applicant receives the information which is the subject of the review request, or you receive a notice of fees payable, of refusal, or that the information requested is not held by Healthcare Improvement Scotland. In addition to asking for a review, you should outline the nature of your complaint. Our obligation is to respond to this requirement for review promptly, and by no later than 20 working days. In order to ensure that a review request is handled independently within Healthcare Improvement Scotland, you should direct it to:

Dr Sara Twaddle
Head of Evidence and Technologies
Healthcare Improvement Scotland
Gyle Square
1 South Gyle Crescent
Edinburgh EH12 9EB Tel: 0131 623 4300

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of such a review, you are entitled to refer the matter to the Scottish Information Commissioner (www.itspublicknowledge.info), telephone 01334 464 610, within six months of receiving the fee or review notice concerned, or of the expiry of the 20 working days allowed for issue of a review notice. Following the outcome of an appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner, you have a right of appeal to the Court of Session.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (direct line 0131 623 4605) if you require further information.

Yours sincerely





Gyle Square
1 South Gyle Crescent
Edinburgh
EH12 9EB

0131 623 4300

Delta House
50 West Nile Street
Glasgow
G1 2NP

0141 225 6999

Patrick Maitland-Cullen.
Health Information Scientist.