

Chief Executive's Office
Freedom of Information

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Ref.: 21-200
Date: 5 July 2021

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) 2002

Thank you for your email, dated 12 June, where you requested information through the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please find below responses to the questions you raised.

I have heard that NHS staff in Dumfries and Galloway NHS Board have been requested to take a confirmatory Pillar 1 (NHS Lab) test for SARS-CoV-2 if they have received a positive test result carried out in a Pillar 2 lab (Lighthouse Labs).

Please could you send me policy documents, staff briefings (delivered via Multi-Disciplinary Teams meetings or other means), emails to staff or a similar notification to staff that defines the policy at Dumfries and Galloway NHS Board for confirmatory Pillar 1 SARS-CoV-2 testing following a Pillar 2 positive test result.

This information you have heard is incorrect. All NHS Dumfries and Galloway staff should be tested through Occupational Health, and therefore all tests go straight to an NHS laboratory. There is no policy, staff briefing etc; therefore your request is refused under section 17 of FOISA

Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Dumfries and Galloway 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 forty working days from 05 July 2021 and should, in the first instance, be in writing to Jeff Ace, Chief Executive, NHS Dumfries and Galloway, Ground Floor North, Mountainhall Treatment Centre, Bankend Road, Dumfries DG1 4AP or by e-mail to dg.feedback2@nhs.scot. You must provide your name, an address for correspondence, details of your original request and why you want a review.

If our decision is unchanged following review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you have the right to make a formal appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner. Requests for appeal should be made in writing to the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, telephone 01334 464610, fax 01334 464611 or email: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer