Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – WAITING LIST INITIATIVE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to payments to consultants for waiting times initiative work in NHS Lothian.

I have been provided with information to help answer your request by NHS Lothian’s Finance Directorate.

Question:
1. Since January 1st 2013, how many consultants have been paid a) more than £1500; b) more than £2000, for Waiting List Initiative work carried out on a single Sunday?
2. In addition, how many times did each consultant in these categories receive payments in excess of the figures mentioned for work on a single Sunday.

Answer:
In the period 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2014, 60 individual medical consultants were paid between £1,500 and £2,000 on 385 occasions.

5 medical consultants were paid more than £2,000 to work on a single Sunday under the Waiting List Initiative. Each of the 5 consultants received payments of this amount once.

Question:
3. Regarding Waiting List Initiative work carried out on Sundays, how many consultants have (since January 1st 2013) received a) more than £50,000; b) more than £100,000; c) more than £200,000; d) more than £300,000.

Answer:
Fewer than 5 medical consultants have received a total payment of more than £50,000 for Waiting List Initiative work on Sundays during the period 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2014. I have not been able to give the exact figure as this may lead to identification of the individual patients involved. Since we do not have their consent to release this data from their records, the information is exempt under section 38 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act, as to provide it would breach the 7th Principle of the Data Protection Act 1998.
No consultants have received payments of more than £100,000 for Waiting List Initiative work on Sundays during this period.

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian’s Freedom of Information website at:
http://www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk/YourRights/FOI/Pages/default.aspx

Yours sincerely

ALAN BOYTER
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and Organisational Development
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