

Headquarters
Executive Office
Gyle Square
1 South Gyle Crescent
EDINBURGH
EH12 9EB
Telephone 0131 275 6000
Text Relay: 18001 0131 275 6000
Fax: 0131 275 7530
www.nss.nhs.scot



Date 20th August 2024
Your Ref FOI-2024-000273
Our Ref FOI-2024-000273

Enquiries to [REDACTED]
Email nss.foi@nhs.scot

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information Reference FOI-2024-000273

I refer to your request of 22nd July 2024 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) for information in relation to the following:

- As of the date of this request, please can you tell me the total costs incurred by your organisation in relation to the Scottish Hospitals public inquiry.
- If possible, please can you provide a breakdown of these costs (such as legal, staffing or the hire of external consultants).
- And please can you tell how much, if any, of this expense has been reimbursed by the public inquiry as per its mechanism for some participants to claim back legal expenses incurred.
- Again, if possible, please provide any details you hold of how much human resource has gone into your Scottish Hospitals Inquiry commitments (such as the number of staffing hours taken so far or how many officials have worked on the responses).

After a search of our paper and electronic records I can confirm that NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) does hold the information that you have requested.

- **As of the date of this request, please can you tell me the total costs incurred by your organisation in relation to the Scottish Hospitals public inquiry.**

If possible, please can you provide a breakdown of these costs (such as legal, staffing or the hire of external consultants).

Our legal costs are documented in the table below.

All other Scottish Hospital Inquiry is being undertaken as part of routine provision and is not tracked as separate activity.



Chair Keith Redpath
Chief Executive Mary Morgan

NHS National Services Scotland is the common name of the Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service.

Below details costs for dedicated staff time which supported the Inquiry response in 2021/22, and for staff hours worked above standard working hours in providing responses to the Inquiry. These are detailed in the table below.

SCOTTISH HOSPITALS PUBLIC INQUIRY	
AREA OF SPEND	COST (£)
Staff costs	
Inquiry response 21/22 (1475 hours)	40,403.00
Hours worked above standard working hours (665.7 hours)	70,355.00
Legal Costs	1,307,736.23
TOTAL:	1,418,494.23

- **And please can you tell how much, if any, of this expense has been reimbursed by the public inquiry as per its mechanism for some participants to claim back legal expenses incurred.**

No expense has been sought or reimbursed by the Scottish Hospitals Public Inquiry.

- **Again, if possible, please provide any details you hold of how much human resource has gone into your Scottish Hospitals Inquiry commitments (such as the number of staffing hours taken so far or how many officials have.**

NSS does not hold the detail for routine staff provision. As noted above in our response, Scottish Hospitals Inquiry activity is being undertaken as part of routine provision and is not tracked as separate activity. See above table for information held for all other staff costs.

If you are unhappy with any aspect of how we have dealt with your request, you can make representations to us asking us to review the handling of your request. Please write to the Associate Director Governance & Board Services using the email address nss.foi@nhs.scot within 40 working days of the date of this correspondence.

If after a review you are still unhappy, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at Kinburn Castle, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, or via their [online Appeal form](#).

Yours sincerely

