NHS Tayside has now considered your request dated 22 January 2019.

**Extract from Request (numbers added by NHS Tayside for ease of reference)**

1. What is the health board policy regarding how often laundry is uplifted and how often is this reviewed?

2. How many vehicles are in operation to transport a) contaminated laundry b) clean linen, please detail figures over the last 5 years broken down by year?

3. How many times have laundry shortages been reported by the health board over the last 5 years, broken down by year.

4. What is the health board policy regarding reporting laundry shortages? What contingency plans are in place for such an occurrence?"

**Response**

1. The significant majority of dirty linen is uplifted daily from main hospitals. The National Infection Prevention and Control Manual is updated annually.

2. Please see below for number of vehicles which are in operation to transport laundry.

   - 2013/14 - 5
   - 2014/15 - 5
   - 2015/16 - 5
   - 2016/17 - 4
   - 2017/18 - 3

3. No laundry shortages have been reported by NHS Tayside over the last five years.

4. Over the last 5 years a laundry shortage has never occurred in NHS Tayside, however, NHS Tayside has national contingency plans in place if this were to occur.


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<th>FOISA Exemption Applied</th>
<th>Justification</th>
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*Everyone has the best care experience possible*

Headquarters: Ninewells Hospital & Medical School, Dundee, DD1 9SY (for mail) DD2 1UB (for Sat Nav)

Chairman, John Brown CBE
Chief Executive, Grant R Archibald
Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Tayside 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 Commission.

A request for an internal review must be made in writing no later than forty working days from receipt of this response and addressed to:

Tayside NHS Board Secretary
Tayside NHS Board Headquarters
Ninewells Hospital & Medical School
Dundee
DD1 9SY

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision. The Scottish Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS

Or via the online appeal service: [www.itstopublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itstopublicknowledge.info/Appeal)

If you have any queries about this correspondence, please contact:

Information Governance Team
Maryfield House
30 Mains Loan
Dundee
DD4 7BT

Telephone - 01382 424413
E-mail: [informationgovernance.tayside@nhs.net](mailto:informationgovernance.tayside@nhs.net)

Information Governance
NHS Tayside
31 January 2019