NHS Tayside has now considered your request dated 24 January 2019.

NHS Tayside wishes to advise you that there are exemptions applicable to the information requested. Please refer to the exemptions section of this correspondence.

**Extract from Request**

“I am writing to you to request information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

I would like to know:

1. How much money your NHS health board spent on reimbursing patients for travel expenses during the calendar year 2018.

2. How many patients received this financial reimbursement over the period?

3. If possible, can you tell me these figures for EACH of the last five years too? If this brings the FOI cost over the £600 limit then please just provide information for the first two questions.”

**Response**

1. The amount spent by NHS Tayside on reimbursing patients for travel expenses in the Financial year 2018/19 (1st April 2018 to 31st December 2019) was £99,070.

2. Information not held by NHS Tayside. The information is not recorded in a way that makes it easy to identify patient numbers. The costs reimbursed include those for patient escorts where approved as clinically appropriate.

3. The amount spent by NHS Tayside on reimbursing patients for travel expenses in the following Financial years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>159,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>174,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>202,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/18</td>
<td>184,326</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Ref.</th>
<th>FOISA Exemption Applied</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGTFOISA5871</td>
<td>Section 17 – Information not held</td>
<td>NHS Tayside does not record the information requested.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Commissioner.

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.itstpublicknowledge.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

Information Governance, NHS Tayside, 18 February 2019