NHS Tayside has now considered your request dated 15 March 2019.

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

“Can you please clarify and/or confirm some elements of your response:
1. Theatres at no time are operational on a Saturday or Sunday. Can you please advise why that position has been taken?
2. Can you advise to what the loss of four full theatre days (Monday to Friday) refer - is that weekly, monthly, or quarterly and to how many theatres does it apply. It would be helpful to know, across each theatre, how many sessions were used over the three month period (Monday to Friday) against the available sessions. You advise that from 1 January 2019 the loss has been reduced to two full theatre days. The same questions apply as to the previous period. You appear to indicate that NHS Grampian is the only NHS Board that is accessing Stracathro. What are the reasons for NHS Fife and NHS Tayside not using Stracathro over the period 1 October 2018 to 31 December 2018?
3. I had understood there was an endoscopy suite at Stracathro. If that is correct why and when was it discontinued? What was the reason for that decision if it applies?”

**Response**

1. NHST delivers unscheduled care through theatres 7 days per week and planned care Monday to Friday only. Stracathro provides only planned care procedures.
2. As of January 2019, 4 theatre sessions have been reinstated and plans are progressing to reinstate the remaining 4 sessions. NHS Fife has a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with NHS Tayside and patients attend Stracathro Hospital.
3. Patients across Tayside were offered the option to attend Stracathro, Perth Royal Infirmary (PRI) and Ninewells Hospital for their gastroenterology endoscopy procedure and, despite Stracathro Hospital having the shortest waiting times, only 10% of patients chose to go there. This meant that the facility was not being fully used. To provide the most effective and efficient service for all patients across Tayside, outpatient gastroenterology endoscopy procedures are provided from Ninewells and PRI.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Ref.</th>
<th>FOISA Exemption Applied</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGTFOISA6113</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Response to correspondence dated 15 March 2019
Request: Stracathro Theatres
Applicant: Private
Reference: IGTFOISA6113

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.itpublicknowledge.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: informationgovemance.tayside@nhs.net

Information Governance
NHS Tayside
15 April 2019