NHS Tayside has now considered your request dated 29 April 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**

“Please provide me with details regarding opioid replacement therapies within your health board, broken down for each of the following financial years: 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19

1. How many individual patients were prescribed methadone on at least one occasion in the year?
2. How many individual patients were prescribed buprenorphine on at least one occasion in the year?
3. How many individual patients used a needle exchange on at least one occasion in the year?
4. How many times was naloxone prescribed/ administered to patients in the year?”

**Response**

1. The information requested can be found at the following link:

   [https://www.scotpho.org.uk/behaviour/drugs/data/treatment-for-drug-misuse/](https://www.scotpho.org.uk/behaviour/drugs/data/treatment-for-drug-misuse/)

   Information for 2018/19 will be available on the Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) website once all data is collected.

2. As above.

3. Please see response below for number of individual patients who used a needle exchange in NHS Tayside.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Unique Identifier*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>7263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>6388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>5453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>4400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>4211</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*It is impossible to know the number of individuals who have used Injecting Equipment Provision (IEP) services as they are confidential. Users are allocated a unique identifier however an individual can use multiple identifiers. Work has been done over the years to “clean” the data within the IEP reporting system and to build trust with the client.
group to help them understand the importance of using only one code however unique identifier does not equal unique individual.

4. See response to Q1.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Ref.</th>
<th>FOISA Exemption Applied</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGTFOISA6241</td>
<td>Section 17 – Information not held. (Q3)</td>
<td>NHS does not hold the information in the format requested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Section 25 - Information otherwise available</td>
<td>The information requested is published on the ScotPHO website and the link has been provided.</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 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.itstpublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://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
13 May 2019