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

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

“Please provide me with information relating to foreign objects left inside patients during operations. Please provide answers to the following questions, broken down by 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19.

1 How many operations were carried out at the health board over the year?
2 During how many operations were foreign objects left inside a patient over the year?
   • Please specify what the items/objects were
   • How many of these items were removed afterwards?
3 How many of these instances resulted in a compensation payout to the patient?
   • Please detail each of the payouts or, if this is not possible, the total paid out over the year.
4 Please also tell me the total number of foreign objects left inside a patient in 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 combined.”

Response

1 All operations carried out by NHS Tayside -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Operations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>35,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>34,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>31,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>30,560</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All procedures carried out, which require theatre resources, at all locations within NHS Tayside and against all specialties are included.

2 There have been no foreign objects left inside a patient between 01/04/2015-31/03/2019.

3 There has been no compensation payouts relating to foreign objects left inside a patient between 01/04/2015-31/03/2019.

4 There have been no foreign objects left inside a patient between 01/04/2015-31/03/2019.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Ref.</th>
<th>FOISA Exemption Applied</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGTFOISA6329</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</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](mailto:informationgovernance.tayside@nhs.net)

Information Governance
NHS Tayside
20 June 2019