



Freedom of Information Request

25 November 2022

Question

I would like to know:

I am looking for information regarding the number of times an ambulance has been placed on 'divert' to another hospital which is outwith the Health Board area in which the patient was treated by the paramedics?

For example, if an ambulance was called to an incident in Falkirk, but the ambulance was diverted from Forth Valley Hospital to another hospital in a different health board.

Can I have this information for each financial year since 2017 to date (2022/23). Can I also have a breakdown of the data by location, and why the diversion took place (no capacity etc)?

Answer

We do not hold the data you are requesting, It is for this reason; we have applied the exemption Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Scotland Act 2002 as information not held.

We have considered your request thoroughly and under section 17 of the Freedom of Information Scotland Act 2002, we do not hold this information to provide a response to your request.

To help explain the application of this exemption. The information you have asked for originates within a hospital. They would therefore be the owners of this information and the primary source to provide an accurate reflection on the information they hold, and their processes followed regarding your question.

The Scottish Ambulance service may be notified of a divert once a hospital has implemented this decision through their processes. I say may, as this is dependent on the information being received by our members of staff within our service at the time of implementation by the Hospital. Under the Freedom of Information legislation, we are not under the obligation to create a new record of documentation for the purposes of fulfilling a Freedom of Information Request. We do not hold a true and accurate reflection of this information and the information we do hold would require the creation of a new record of documentation, needing the skills of complex judgement and analysis.