

NHS Tayside has now considered your request dated 27 November 2017.

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

1. "The number of whistleblowers who have come forward in each financial year since 2007/8
2. The number of whistleblowers who have left the employment of the health board since raising their concerns, the reasons for their departure and whether they were subject to a confidentiality clause in any severance agreement."

Response

1. Information in the table below is for the number of whistleblowers who have come forward in each financial year.

Where the values of statistics provided in the table below fall below 5 but are greater than 0, these statistics are represented by '<5'. Due to the small numbers of patients involved further detail cannot be provided as disclosure of the information may lead to the identification of individuals.

The Staff Governance Reporting changed in 2013/14 to include reference to Whistleblowing, therefore, there are no central records available prior to this.

Year	No. of Whistleblowers
2013/14	<5
2014/15	<5
2015/16	0
2016/17	<5

2. It is not possible to identify whistleblowers that have left NHS Tayside, nor the reasons for them leaving.

Exemptions Section – application of Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 exemptions and Data Protection Act 1998 principles.

Document Ref.	FOISA Exemption Applied	Justification
IGTFOISA4475	Section 17 – Information not held	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Information prior to 2013/14 is not held by NHS Tayside. (Q1)Information surrounding reasons for whistleblowers leaving is not held by NHS Tayside (Q2)
	Section 38 – Personal Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Disclosure of information which would allow the identification of individuals would be in breach of confidentiality and Data Protection principles. (Q2)

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Response to correspondence dated 27 November 2017
Request: Whistleblowers in NHS Tayside
Applicant: Private
Reference: IGTFOISA4475

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.itspublicknowledge.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 424436
E-mail: informationgovernance.tayside@nhs.net

Information Governance
NHS Tayside
19 December 2017