

21 August 2017

Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London SE1 8UG

T: 020 3747 0000
E: nhsi.enquiries@nhs.net
W: improvement.nhs.uk

████████████████████
By email
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Dear ██████████

Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the “FOI Act”)

We refer to your email of 19 July 2017 in which you requested information under the FOI Act. Since 1 April 2016, Monitor and the NHS TDA have been operating as an integrated organisation known as NHS Improvement. For the purposes of this decision, NHS Improvement means Monitor and the NHS TDA.

Your request

You made the following request:

“The annual reports for Monitor and the TDA suggest there was a significant increase in the business travel expenses in 2016-17. The reports explain the broad reasons for this, but I’d be grateful if you could provide the following info under FOI laws, in relation to the financial years 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17.

- (1) For each executive board member, state the total amount of travel expenses claimed and paid.
- (2) For the three board members who were paid the highest amount in each year, please break down the amount of each mode of transport used (For example; Trains £500, Taxis £400 etc)”

Decision

NHS Improvement holds information in relation to both Monitor and the NHS TDA and has decided to release that information. Please note that NHS TDA’s first year of operation was 2013-14 and that there are therefore no figures for 2012-13.

Context

Expenses for NHS Improvement’s Executive Directors have remained at broadly similar levels during the period in question. Any increases reflect the fact that NHS Improvement’s approach to regulation has evolved since the merger of TDA and Monitor.

Our CEO and other Executive Directors have stated openly our intention to ‘get alongside’ trusts. We believe that the only way to support providers effectively is to understand the context and detail of the issues they are facing locally.

Our conversations with providers suggest that the sector welcomes this focus. There is still plenty more that we need to do to ensure that we are working as effectively as possible with the sector, but we were encouraged by a recent NHS Providers survey which suggests we are heading in the right direction. Our staff will continue to need to visit providers in person if NHS Improvement is to engage effectively with the challenges they are facing.

In 2016/17, the highest expenses claim made by NHS Improvement’s Executive Team was unsurprisingly made by the Chief Executive. As you will be aware, the CEO is based in Newcastle and travels each week to London, where NHS Improvement’s central office is based, and where he also meets with ministers and senior officials across government. He also travels extensively to meet with leadership teams and staff in providers. The CEO claims his expenses from Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT and these are subsequently recharged to NHS Improvement, in line with NHS Improvement’s travel policy. Detailed expenses data for the CEO would need to be obtained via an FOI request of Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT.

Information released

We note that the first part of your request concerns executive board members. We have assumed that the second part follows on and that when referring to the three board members with the highest expenses for each year this is also a reference to executive board directors.

The details in respect of Question 1 are as follows:

Monitor: Executive Board Member	2012-13 £	2013-14 £	2014-15 £	2015-16 £	2016-17¹ £
David Bennett	3,605	5,547	4,276	957	
Stephen Hay	1,606	1,689	2,234	2,526	2,569
Adrian Masters	393	81	577	1,269	
Ruth May					5,043

¹Joint Board for TDA and Monitor in 2016-17

NHS TDA: Executive Board Member	2013-14 £	2014-15 £	2015-16 £	2016-17¹ £
Jim Mackey			14,391 ²	32,524 ²
Kathy McLean	27,058	27,469	31,764	23,842
Stephen Dunn	22,830			
Peter Blythin	26,149	23,856	33,842	
Rob Checketts	15,364	16,216	10,829	
Yasmin	21,710	3,159		

Chaudhry				
Lyn Simpson	18,513	21,684	16,521	
Dale Bywater	15,906	16,141	15,058	
David Flory	11,535	7,870		
Bob Alexander	8,200	7,535	3,890	4,242
Ralph Coulbeck	3,334	4,262	1,320	
Alwen Williams	1,369	1,170		
Jim Lusby		3,402		
Elizabeth O'Mahony			17,220	
Anne Eden			7,917	

¹ Joint Board for TDA and Monitor in 2016-17

² Includes travel & Accommodation Recharged by Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT

The details in respect of Question 2 are as follows:

Board Member	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 ¹
NHS TDA					
Kathy McLean		Mileage - £253 Rail ² - £24,964 Other travel ³ - £1,841 Total - £27,058	Mileage - £628 Rail ² - £25,757 Other travel ³ - £1,084 Total - £27,469	Mileage - £137 Rail ² - £30,519 Other travel ³ - £1,108 Total - £31,764	Mileage - £403 Rail ² - £21,832 Other travel ³ - £1,607 Total - £23,842
Stephen Dunn		Mileage - £2,595 Rail ² - £16,206 Other travel ³ - £4,029 Total - £22,830			
Peter Blythin		Rail ² – £26,149 Total - £26,149	Rail ² – £23,856 Total - £23,856	Rail ² – £33,842 Total - £33,842	
Elizabeth O'Mahony				Mileage - £85 Rail ² - £15,170 Other travel ³ - £1,965 Total - £17,220	
Jim Mackey					Rail ² – 356 Recharge ⁴ - £32,168 Total - £32,524
Lyn Simpson			Rail ² - £17,705 Other travel ³ -		

			£3,979 Total - £21,684		
Ruth May					Mileage £191 Rail £4378 Taxi £474 Total- £5043

¹ Joint Board for TDA and Monitor in 2016-17

² 'Rail' represents corporate travel bookings – there may be a small element of air travel not identified

³ Other travel may contain taxis, trains booked personally, car parking, etc. which cannot be separated within NHS Improvement data

⁴ Travel & Accommodation Recharged by Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT

Board Member	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 ¹
Monitor					
David Bennett	Rail – £656 Mileage – £31 Taxi – £2,737 Air - £181 Total - £3,605	Rail – £854 Mileage – £22 Taxi – £4,671 Total - £5,547	Rail – £959 Taxi – £3,317 Total - £4,276		
Stephen Hay	Rail - £759 Taxi - £847 Total - £1,606	Rail - £671 Taxi - £1,018 Total - £1,689	Rail - £747 Mileage - £706 Taxi - £781 Total - £2,234	Rail - £1,130 Taxi - £1,265 Air - £131 Total - £2,526	
Adrian Masters	Rail- £322 Taxi- £71 Total- £393	Rail- £81 Taxi- £0 Total- £81	Rail- £512 Taxi- £55 Mileage- £10 Total- £577	Rail-£1160 Taxi-£109 Total- £1269	

¹ Joint Board for TDA and Monitor in 2016-17

Review rights

If you consider that your request for information has not been properly handled or if you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you can try to resolve this informally with the person who dealt with your request. If you remain dissatisfied, you may seek an internal review within NHS Improvement of the issue or the decision. A senior member of NHS Improvement's staff, who has not previously been involved with your request, will undertake that review.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of any internal review, you may complain to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether your request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the FOI Act.

A request for an internal review should be submitted in writing to FOI Request Reviews, NHS Improvement, Wellington House, 133-155 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UG or by email to nhsi.foi@nhs.net.

Publication

Please note that this letter will shortly be published on our website. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the FOI Act is disclosed to the public at large. We will, of course, remove your personal information (e.g. your name and contact details) from the version of the letter published on our website to protect your personal information from general disclosure.

Yours sincerely

NHS Improvement