

## Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

DATE RECEIVED	25/01/2022	SUBJECT	GP Out of Hours		
PASSED TO	Primary Care	DATE PASSED	25/01/2022	RESPOND BY	15/02/2022
CATEGORY	Scottish Parliament	FoI NUMBER	2022-033		

Question/s to be Answered

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act:

1. In this health board, how many GPs are currently providing out-of-hours care? Please provide this information at the time of making this inquiry as well as for the 1 April 2021, 1 April 2020, 1 April 2019 and 1 April 2018.  
**We have one GP on call from 1730-0800 Monday to Friday, and from 0800-0800 Saturday and Sunday**
2. In this health board, how many GP shifts are needed to provide full out-of-hours care each week?  
**We have one GP on call from 1730-0800 Monday to Friday, and from 0800-0800 Saturday and Sunday. So 5 week day shifts. Although one GP normally provides 24 hour cover its counted as two shifts so weekend is 4 shifts.**
3. In the last year, on how many occasions have out of hours shifts for GPs not had a full complement of GPs in this health board?  
**None**
4. In this health board, what is the total number of out of hours GP shifts that have been unfilled? Please provide this information in terms of number of hours that have been unfilled for the financial years of 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and so far in 2021-22. If it not possible to provide this figure in terms of hours unfilled, please provide the number of unfilled shifts.  
**None – we are a small Board with only one person doing Out Of Hours cover at a time; it is different to the larger Boards which have multiple people on duty**
5. In this health board, what are the average waiting times for patients requiring out-of-hours care, from the initial phone call to a GP arriving at their address in each of the last 12 months?  
**We do not hold this information; all our calls go through Highland Hub, part of NHS Highland and they then pass the call details to the GP.**

Clarification Request:

Can you clarify with the requestor if they are asking:

- a. Number of GPs in the pool willing to work on call in total or
- b. Just the number of GPs working on each shift

Clarification Response:

If you could provide 'just the number of GPs working on each shift' that would be much appreciated.