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Date: 10 August 2022
Our ref: K: FOI/Ref: 2022-000164
Direct Line: 0131 275 6807
Email: nss.pcf-foi@nhs.scot

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information Reference: FOI-2022-000164 provision of Covid support to unpaid carers.

I refer to your freedom of information request that we received on 12 July 2022.

I can advise you that we have now completed the search of our records and can provide you with the following information:

1) how much has NHS National Services Scotland spent on the purchase of (a) PPE items

Appendices 1 & 2 (attached) provides details in relation to NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) spend for PPE items.

(b) lateral flow tests that were provided to unpaid carers in each month since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic to present, also broken down by financial year.

NSS does not hold all the detail requested. Appendices 3 & 4 (attached) details what we do hold. The total quantity of lateral flow tests (LFTs) provided to unpaid carers issued via the Health and Social Care Hubs (HSCP Hubs) in each month, since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic to present. It does not include the cost.

Under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Scotland Act an organisation does not require to provide information if it does not hold that information. As well as access to LFTs from HSCP Hubs, unpaid carers could also access LFTs through the UK Covid portal.

In terms of LFTs purchased by NSS for unpaid carers, we do not hold this information as the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) procured these for the UK centrally and NSS have not been provided with the costs of tests purchased. This information may be available by contacting UKHSA General Enquiries at enquiries@ukhsa.gov.uk.

I trust you will find the information of assistance and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are unhappy with any aspect of how we have dealt with your request, you can make representations to us asking us to review the handling of your request. Please write to the



Headquarters

Gyle Square, 1 South Gyle Crescent, EDINBURGH EH12 9EB

Chairperson Keith Redpath
Chief Executive Mary Morgan

Head of Information and Cyber Security
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NHS National Services Scotland
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1 South Gyle Crescent
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or at the email address nss.foi@nhs.scot within 40 working days of the date of this correspondence.

If after a review you are still unhappy, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at Kinburn Castle, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, or via their [online application form](#).

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me at the above address.

Yours sincerely

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