

**Dumfries and Galloway
NHS Board**

Chief Executive's Office

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Ref: JAA/ST/LMcK
Date: 4 December 2018



Mr Lewis Macdonald
Convener
Health and Sport Committee
T3.60
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Dear Mr Macdonald

Anticipated UK Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill – Legislative Consent Memorandum

Please find below NHS Dumfries and Galloway responses to the questions raised within the letter of 27th November 2018.

1. How do you identify (non-UK) EEA citizens using NHS services in your board area (on behalf of the DWP)?

When completing a patient register form, any individual that has a home address outwith the UK are asked to complete a NHS treatment entitlement form.

2. How much does it cost the board to provide treatment for (non-UK) EEA individuals?

The average cost associated with treating non-uk patients over the past 3 years has been £4,500 per patient.

3. How many (non-UK) EEA individuals using NHS services of the board were reported to DWP in the last five years?

The Board do not report EEA individuals to DWP

4. What costs to the boards were reported to the DWP incurred by (non-UK) EEA individuals in the last five years?

The Board do not report EEA individuals to DWP

5. What means does the board use to identify and recover costs for non EEA citizens who are not eligible for NHS treatment?

When completing a patient register form, any individual that has a home address outwith the UK are asked to complete a NHS treatment entitlement form, they are also asked to provide identification (passport and insurance documents).

These forms are forwarded to the patient data team within the Board to provide details of treatment and a breakdown is sent to the relevant finance team to cost. This costing is then passed to the debtors section to raise an invoice.

Any initial debt recovery is undertaken by our finance team however if recovery is proving difficult, the Board legal advisors (Central Legal Office) are instructed to try and recover on the Boards behalf.

Debts greater than £500 are reported to UKBC who have the power to refuse entry to the UK.

6. In the last five financial years, how much did treatment cost for these (non EEA) individuals and how much was recovered?

From 2013-14 to end of 2017-18 NHS Dumfries and Galloway have invoiced £77,006 for treatment to non EEA individuals. To date £9,909 remains outstanding.

Yours sincerely



Jeff Ace
Chief Executive