Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

I refer to your e-mail dated 21st November 2013, requesting:

1) How many operations has the health board cancelled following advice by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) this year advising surgeons to stop using the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System? Please break the figures down to show how many operations have been cancelled at each hospital.
2) How many operations using the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System were carried out by the health board during the calendar years 2011, 2012 and 2013?
3) How many operations that were due to be carried out using the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System have had to be rescheduled following advice by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) this year advising surgeons to stop using the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System?
4) How many claims for compensation have been lodged with the health board that allege complications arose following use of the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System?”

I can now respond as follows:

How many operations has the health board cancelled following advice by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) this year advising surgeons to stop using the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System? Please break the figures down to show how many operations have been cancelled at each hospital.
There have been no operations cancelled this year.

How many operations using the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System were carried out by the health board during the calendar years 2011, 2012 and 2013?
NHS Grampian does not have systems to report on this level of information; s.17 of the Act refers Information not held.
How many operations that were due to be carried out using the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System have had to be rescheduled following advice by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) this year advising surgeons to stop using the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System? NHS Grampian does not record this information; s.17 of the Act refers – Information not held.

How many claims for compensation have been lodged with the health board that allege complications arose following use of the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System?
NHS Grampian can advise that there have been no claims for compensation lodged with the Board regarding complications which have arisen following the use of the Mercian Super Slide Laminectomy Retractor System.

Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Grampian 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 Commissioner.

A request for review must be made within 40 working days and should, in the first instance, be in writing to: Directorate of Corporate Communications, Ashgrove House, Foresterhill, Aberdeen, AB25 2ZN or by email to grampian@nhs.net

Requests for appeal should be made in writing to: Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS
Telephone: 01334 464610, Fax: 01334 464611
E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

Yours sincerely

Chris Morrice
Information Governance Manager
NHS Grampian