Dear [Name],

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

I refer to your e-mail dated 6th February 2012, requesting:

“1. In financial year 2010/2011, how much has your board paid to meet the costs of discretionary points for consultants (or any successor scheme)? Please also state the number of consultants who benefited from discretionary points/payments from the point scheme in each of those years.

2. In financial year 2010/2011, please state how many consultants a) were in a higher discretionary points banding than in the previous year b) the financial value of all these ‘uplifts’ c) the total number of consultants who were awarded discretionary points for the first time, and the cost of these points.”

I can now respond as follows:

1. In financial year 2010/2011, how much has your board paid to meet the costs of discretionary points for consultants (or any successor scheme)?
£2,022,000

Please also state the number of consultants who benefited from discretionary points/payments from the point scheme in each of those years.
202 consultants were in receipt of discretionary points as at March 2011.

2. In financial year 2010/2011, please state how many consultants a) were in a higher discretionary points banding than in the previous year
79 consultants.

b) the financial value of all these ‘uplifts’
£329,000

c) the total number of consultants who were awarded discretionary points for the first time, and the cost of these points.
23 consultants, with the cost of points £84,300.
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