

Freedom of Information request 92-17

Request

1. Please provide details of the number of children and young people referred by a Local Authority for becoming Looked After in each of the last five years and the year to date (February 2017).
2. Please provide details of the number of mental health assessments which have been undertaken for Looked After children/young people in each of the last five years and the year to date (February 2017).
3. Please provide details of how many mental health assessments were undertaken for Looked After children/young people within four weeks between November 2015 and February 2017.
4. Please provide details of what form the required 'mental health assessment' for Looked After children/young people takes, and who carries out the assessments.

Response

Please note the following figures are for Looked After Children who are away from home:

Year	No. of Referrals	Mental Health Assessments	MHA within 4 weeks
2012	51	37	-
2013	45	39	-
2014	47	42	-
2015	66	57	34
2016	52	57	21
2017(Jan-Feb)	13	11	8

4. The initial health assessment includes a mental health screening assessment. The mental health component of the assessment has been agreed in partnership with CAMHS service. Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) was introduced, in addition, at the end of 2015 for school aged children. The initial assessments are carried out by paediatrician (under 12s) and specialist LAC nurse (over 12 years).

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk.

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **92-17** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.