

## Freedom of Information request 117-17

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### Request

The following freedom of information act request is about delayed discharges from your mental health inpatient units.

1) Please state the five longest delays (in days) which patients who were ready for discharge, have had before they were able to leave the hospital during the period from January 1st 2015 to date.

Please provide delays in terms of the time period that these patients were actually in delay, stripping out periods of time within a delay period that a patient was too sick to discharge.

However, if you only record delays including these periods, or stripping out these periods would trigger a cost exemption under the FOIA, please provide an amalgamated delay figure, clearly caveating that you have done this.

For each of these delayed discharges, please state:

- i) The age of the person concerned.
- ii) The original reason for admission to hospital.
- iii) The reason for the delayed discharge.
- iv) The date on which the patient was ready for discharge.
- v) The date on which they were in fact discharged.

2 i) On 28th February 2017, how many of your acute beds were occupied by people who were ready for discharge?

- ii) What percentage of your overall number of acute beds were being used by people who were ready for discharge?
- iii) Have you had to open extra transitional, reablement or similar beds to meet the additional demand caused by delayed discharges?
- iv) If yes, please state how many beds and the cost per day of providing these.

### Response

1. Please find below details of mental health delayed discharge patients as per request:

Reason for Delayed Discharge	Date Ready for Discharge	Date of Discharge	Days Delayed
Reprovisioning/Recommissioning	05/02/2014	11/06/2015	491
Complex Needs - Care Home/facility closed - patient well but cannot be discharged at point of census	25/03/2015	08/12/2015	258
Complex Needs - Adults with Incapacity Act	13/08/2014	22/01/2015	162
Complex Needs - Adults with Incapacity Act	29/09/2016	26/01/2017	119
Reprovisioning/Recommissioning	21/09/2015	01/01/2016	102

Note: The longest wait for re-commissioning was for specific housing with support.

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  - i) There were <5 patients occupying a bed who were ready for discharge on 28 February 2017.
  - ii) This was 0.05% of the acute beds available.
  - iii) No
  - iv) Not applicable.

Please note that as NHS Borders is such a small Board the number of delayed discharge is very small, and to provide further details of these could allow individuals to be identified and we would be in breach of the Data Protection Act 1998. We are therefore withholding all other data under Section 38(2)(ii) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This is also in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics any number that is less than five, actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol.

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](mailto: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 **117-17** 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.