

Freedom of Information request 120-17

Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2002, please provide me with details of the following:

1. The number of mortuaries operating in the health board area
2. The number of freezer units/compartments available to store deceased bodies at the city mortuary
3. Please provide a breakdown of the number of bodies held at the city mortuary over the past five years.
4. Are bodies ever stored at other locations? If so, please provide the names of organisations involved.
5. Please provide a breakdown of the number of bodies stored at the other locations over the past five years
6. When did bodies start being stored in other locations?
7. Please provide a breakdown of the costs of storing bodies in buildings operated by other organisations, including any transportation costs, over the past five years along with the reasons why they were stored outwith the city mortuary

Response

1. There is only one Health Board mortuary based at the Borders General Hospital.
- 2-7 We do not hold data on city mortuaries, therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 we cannot provide.

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 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.