

## Freedom of Information request 29-18

---

### Request

Could the health board provide:

1. the total number of unfilled GP out of hours shifts in 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and so far in 2017-18;
2. the number of instances when no out of hours service was available in any area in 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and so far in 2017-18 and details of the date and area?

### Response

1. Please find below data on the number of unfilled GP out of hours shifts in the years requested:
  - Unfilled GP shifts April 2014-March 2015 = 18
  - Unfilled GP shifts April 2015-March 2016 = 40
  - Unfilled GP shifts April 2016-March 2017 = 34
  - Unfilled GP shifts April 2017-March 2018 = 26
2. There have been no instances of Borders Emergency Care Service (BECS) being unable to deliver an out of hours service at any time. The BECS hub is based at the Borders General Hospital and the out of hours service does not operate from any other sites within the Health Board area.

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 **29-18** 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.