

## Freedom of Information request 78-18

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### Request

Could the health board provide:

1. What incontinence services are available for women after childbirth?
2. How many women are referred to incontinence services after childbirth (in each month of 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18)?
3. How many women access physiotherapy services for incontinence after childbirth (in each month of 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18)?
4. How many women access electric stimulation services for incontinence after childbirth (in each month of 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18)?

N.B. If breakdowns for women after childbirth are not available, please provide the total number of women referred, and if that is not available please provide the total number of people.

### Response

- 1 There is a specialist Bladder, Bowel and Pelvic Floor Service in NHS Borders which all women can access. It is mainly the specialist physiotherapists that women who suffer from incontinence after childbirth will see.
- 2 NHS Borders do not hold this level of detail on an electronic patient management system. This may be held in a patient's notes but this would require a manual trawl of all records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002, therefore under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

Under Section 15 of the FOI(S)A 2002 Duty to provide advice and assistance please find below numbers of patients referred for incontinence services in the years requested. These include paediatric, women and men of all ages:

- 2015 – 674.
- 2016 - 615
- 2017 – 737

- 3 NHS Borders do not hold this level of detail on an electronic patient management system. This may be held in a patient's notes but this would require a manual trawl of all records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002, therefore under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

Under Section 15 of the FOI(S)A 2002 Duty to provide advice and assistance please find below numbers of patients referred to physiotherapy services for incontinence in the years requested. These include paediatric, women and men of all ages:

- 2015 – 371.
- 2016 – 354
- 2017 – 445

- 4 NHS Borders do not hold data on the number of women who access electric stimulation services. Under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.

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 **78-18** 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.