

Freedom of Information request 108-18

Request

I request, under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 the following information individually and separately in terms of the legislation:

- a) How many chronic pain patients have been sent from your Board area to the Scottish National Residential Pain Management Programme (SNRPMP) at the Gartnavel complex in Glasgow in the years 2015 to 16 and 2016 to 2017?
- b) As the SNRPMP is financed directly by the Scottish Government, did your Board have any costs in sending patients to Glasgow - if so, what were these?
- c) What steps has your Board taken to publicise this comparatively new national service to clinics, hospitals and also to GPs who, while they may not refer patients directly to this national service, can have queries from patients.
- d) How many chronic pain patients have been sent from your Board area to The Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases (chronic pain services), Bath, Somerset, in the years 2015 to 2016 and 2016 to 2017 and d2) what were the costs?
- e) If any patients sent to Bath, to the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases, what percentage were juveniles and youths if any?

Response

- a) Please find below the number of chronic pain patients sent to the Scottish National Residential Pain Management Programme in the years requested:

2015/16 – None

2016/17 – Less than 5

- b) There were no costs involved.
- c) All patients within the Chronic Pain Service who attend a pain management information session are informed of this option. If the national programme has been discussed with a patient at initial appointment GPs will be informed via the clinic letter.
- d) No patients have been sent to the Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases in Bath.
- e) Not applicable.

As the number of events in some areas are very small and 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.

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 **108-18** 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.