

## Freedom of Information request 206-18

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### Request & Response

1) Does your Health Board offer a Health and Wellbeing event accessible to all breast cancer patients at the end of hospital-based treatment?

(A Health and Wellbeing event is defined as a group education and support event which helps people to manage their physical and psychological health after a cancer diagnosis.)

- A. **Yes**
- B. No

2) If the Health Board does offer a Health and Wellbeing event for breast cancer patients, are these events:

A. solely for people with breast cancer

or

**B. for people with all types of cancer**

3) For breast cancer patients who have completed their hospital-based treatment, do the nurses in the breast care unit routinely make direct referrals, where appropriate, to the following?

(By 'direct referral' we mean gaining consent from a patient to pass on their details to a support service or arranging for someone from the service to contact the patient)

Services provided by charities

- a. Support services provided by charities that support people with cancer (yes/no) **No**
- b. Support services provided by charities that support people with breast cancer only (yes/no) **Yes**

NHS Services

- c. Counselling / psychology services within the NHS (yes/no) **Yes**
- d. Physiotherapy services within the NHS (yes/no) **Yes**
- e. Fertility services within the NHS (yes/no) **Yes, via referral to NHS Lothian**
- f. Lymphoedema services within the NHS (yes/no) **Yes**
- g. Other support services – please specify below (yes/no) **Yes**  
**Move More Borders, Lavender Touch, Welfare Benefit Service.**

4) If you do not refer to some/any of the services in question 3, is this due to any of the reasons below?  
Please indicate all that apply.

- a. Support services provided by charities that support people with cancer
  - Service not available (yes/no)
  - Unaware of service (yes/no)
  - Service is oversubscribed (yes/no)
  - Service is unsuitable for breast cancer patients (yes/no) **Yes**
  - Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made (yes/no)

- Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals (yes/no)
  - Other (please give details)
- b. Support services provided by charities that support people with breast cancer only
- Service not available (yes/no)
  - Unaware of service (yes/no)
  - Service is oversubscribed (yes/no)
  - Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made (yes/no)
  - Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals (yes/no)
  - Other (please give details)
- c. Counselling / psychology services within the NHS
- Service not available (yes/no)
  - Unaware of service (yes/no)
  - Service is oversubscribed (yes/no)
  - Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made (yes/no)
  - Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals (yes/no)
  - Other (please give details)
- d. Physiotherapy services within the NHS
- Service not available (yes/no)
  - Unaware of service (yes/no)
  - Service is oversubscribed (yes/no)
  - Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made (yes/no)
  - Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals (yes/no)
  - Other (please give details)
- e. Fertility services within the NHS
- Service not available (yes/no)
  - Unaware of service (yes/no)
  - Service is oversubscribed (yes/no)
  - Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made (yes/no)
  - Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals (yes/no)
  - Other (please give details)
- f. Lymphoedema services within the NHS
- Service not available (yes/no)
  - Unaware of service (yes/no)
  - Service is oversubscribed (yes/no)
  - Patient is informed of the service but a direct referral is not made (yes/no)
  - Workload capacity does not allow time for referrals (yes/no)
  - Other (please give details)

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 **206-18** 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.