

Freedom of Information request 284-18

Request

My request is in relation to the issuing of Operational Pressures Escalation Levels (OPEL) alerts, which are issued when hospitals come under unusually high levels of pressure.

In the past three years, could you tell me how many times your health board has issued such a warning, or an equivalent to it if not by that exact name.

In addition, could you detail i) for which centre the warning applied, ii) when it was raised and iii) any specific information for the reason it was issued.

Response

NHS Borders do not issue Operational Pressures Escalation Levels (OPEL) alerts as this is an English system.

In the past 3 years NHS Borders has not issued a Major Incident warning due to flow pressures.

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 **284-18** 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.