

Freedom of Information request 288-18

Request

I am writing to obtain information about how often the mental health beds in your health board area are fully occupied. Specifically I would like to know:

1. How many inpatient mental health beds does your health board have? How many of these are acute mental beds?
2. On how many dates during 2015/16, 2016/7 and 2017/8 have: a)all of the acute beds been at 100 percent occupancy? b)all of your in-patient mental health beds been full?
3. How many patients – in 2015/16, 2016/7 and in 2017/8 – have been provided with a bed space from a different health board due to capacity issues in their own health board area? Please also provide total admission figures.
4. How many patients – in 2015/16, 2016/7 and in 2017/8 – have you had to turn away because there were no beds available?

Response

1. NHS Borders has 63 inpatient mental health beds, of these 19 are classed as acute mental beds.
2. NHS Borders are unable to provide this data on a daily basis as the cost of extracting this data would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002 and therefore we are not required to provide. Under Section 15 Duty to provide advice and assistance we can provide the following data which shows average monthly occupancy rates:

2015	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec				
Acute Beds	89.2	89.6	90.9	84.1	99.7	90.8	94.7	79.8				
Mental Health Beds	83.1	86.9	84.2	85.8	89.6	86.8	90.2	79.7				
2016	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Acute Beds	81.3	83.5	84.6	93.7	90.8	80.9	71.6	78.1	79.8	78.9	66.0	73.0
Mental Health Beds	83.6	83.2	76.9	89.6	90.5	78.2	80.4	84.2	78.6	84.1	80.5	79.3
2017	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Acute Beds	88.1	87.8	86.8	87.6	90.2	90.2	94.4	83.9	93.2	83.7	76.1	70.8
Mental Health Beds	91.1	90.0	91.2	86.7	89.6	91.3	83.7	85.0	90.0	87.5	87.2	83.4
2018	Jan	Feb	Mar									
Acute Beds	83.9	83.5	82.7									
Mental Health Beds	87.9	83.7	82.6									

3. Please find below data on the number of patients from other Health Boards who have been provided a mental health bed in the years requested within NHS Borders. We do not hold data on whether these were due to capacity reasons within their own Health Board.

<u>2015/2016</u>	<u>2016/2017</u>	<u>2017/2018</u>	<u>Total Admissions</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>26</u>

4. NHS Borders have never turned away a patient who requires admission due to no beds being available.

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 **288-18** 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.