

Freedom of Information request 321-18

Request

Question 1) On how many occasion has your health board been unable to accept new patients into

- (a) acute wards, other than mental health,
- (b) mental health unit beds because of
 - (i) due to staff shortages
 - (ii) due to bed shortages by month from April 2017 to July 2018

Response

Patients would always be admitted if there was clinical need. There are no recorded instances of new patients not being accommodated into acute wards or mental health wards due to staffing shortages or bed shortages. Although there may be delays in the provision of an inpatient bed due to bed pressures, new patients are always accommodated into wards.

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 **321-18** 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.