

Freedom of Information request 437-18

Request

Under FOISA, can your health board please provide ASAP-NHS all the information you hold relating to;

- A) The total number of Serious Adverse Event Report (SAER) related deaths recorded at each of the 14 Scottish territorial health boards copied in here in the past five complete years for which you have records,

and

- B) The total number of these deaths that were reported by each territorial health board to the Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS).

The attached Microsoft Excel spread sheet gives partial figures we have already obtained regarding the numbers of SAER's carried out by health boards. We would like figures that pertain to the last five complete years that you have records for.

Response

Please find below a table detailing the number of SAERs recorded by NHS Borders for each financial year that relate to the death of a patient, also the number of these which were recorded as being referred to the Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS):

Financial Year	Number of SAERs	Number of deaths reported as suicides to COPFS
2013/14	4	1
2014/15	12	5
2015/16	10	4
2016/17	12	6
2017/18	7	0

Please note NHS Borders share all our suicide SAERs with the Procurator Fiscal as a matter of openness and transparency. We do not systematically keep a record of all deaths that are reported to the COPFS, this data would be available from their office, therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

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 **437-18** 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.