

Freedom of Information request 469-18

Request

I would like to request the following information, please:

1. In each of the past three years, how many people waiting to have a hearing test carried out have waited (i) less than 18 weeks and (ii) between 18 and 24 weeks and (iii) more than 24 weeks for treatment following referral?
2. For those currently waiting to have a hearing test carried out following a referral, how many have waited (i) less than 18 weeks and (ii) between 18 and 24 weeks and (iii) more than 24 weeks?
3. In each of the past three years, what was the longest period anyone waited to have a hearing test carried out following a referral?
4. What is the longest period anyone who is currently waiting to have a hearing test carried out has been waiting following a referral?

Response

1. Historic data was not previously held electronically and to extract this data would require a manual trawl of patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002 therefore we are not required to provide.
2. Please find below data on the current wait for a first contact appointment:

(i) 142 (ii) 19 (iii) 3
3. Historic data was not previously held electronically and to extract this data would require a manual trawl of patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002 therefore we are not required to provide.
4. The longest period for a patient that is currently waiting for a hearing test is 25 weeks.

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 **469-18** 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.

