

Freedom of Information request 471-18

Request

I would like to request the following information, please:

1. What is the current average waiting time, after referral, for i) urgent and ii) routine cataract surgery?
2. How many people underwent cataract surgery in each of the last three years, and how many waited longer than the targeted treatment time after referral?
3. Of those waiting beyond the targeted treatment time, how many waited i) between 18-24 weeks, ii) 25-32 weeks and iii) longer than 32 weeks?
4. In each of the past three years, what was the longest period anyone waited to undergo cataract surgery following a referral?
5. What is the longest period anyone who is currently waiting to undergo cataract surgery has been waiting following a referral?

Response

1. The current waiting time for urgent surgery in Ophthalmology is around 4 weeks and for routine surgery is around 16 weeks.
2. Please find below the number of patients who underwent cataract surgery as per request:

	Sept 15' – Aug 16'	Sept 16' – Aug 17'	Sept 17' – Aug 18'	Grand Total
Treated in Time	1030	867	539	2436
Treated as Breach		19	412	431
Grand Total	1030	886	951	2867

3. Please find below the breakdown of breaches:

	Sept 15' – Aug 16'	Sept 16' – Aug 17'	Sept 17' – Aug 18'	Grand Total
Treated between 18-24 Weeks	0	19	393	412
Treated between 25-32 Weeks	0	0	19	19
Treated over 32 Weeks	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	0	19	412	431

4. The longest time a patient has had to actively wait for surgery was 24 weeks.
5. From the current waiting list the longest waiting patient has been waiting for 32 weeks for surgery.

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 **471-18** 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.