

Freedom of Information request 488-18

Request

Please provide me with a copy of your breast reconstruction policy in full. This document can include both formal and draft policies. If there is no document dedicated to breast reconstruction policy specifically, please provide a copy of your general reconstruction services policy.

Response

NHS Borders does not have a local policy but follows the NHS Scotland Policy on Breast Reconstruction. We offer all patients undergoing mastectomy the option for reconstruction unless contraindicated or the patient is unfit. A wide variety of techniques are used, some are only available in dedicated plastic surgery units, for which we refer patients to St John's Hospital plastic unit. All cases are discussed in details in the multi-disciplinary team and documented with plans. We have passed all our quality assurances indices including the reconstruction Quality Performance Indicator.

Link below to Breast Cancer services in South East Scotland:

<http://www.scan.scot.nhs.uk/CancerInformation/Breast/Leaflets/Pages/default.aspx>

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 **488-18** 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.