

## Freedom of Information request 169-19

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### Request

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act (2002).

1. How are violence and threats to staff monitored across the health board?

For each month of the past five financial years:

2. How many psychical attacks were made against staff? Please break these down by any relevant classification used.
3. How many verbal threats or attacks were made against staff? Please break these down by any relevant classification used.

Of the recorded attacks listed above:

4. How many a) physical attacks and b) verbal threats or attacks, resulted in the police being involved?
5. How many a) physical attacks and b) verbal threats or attacks, resulted in charges or prosecution?

### Response

1. Staff report both verbal and physical assaults via Datix which is checked regularly by the Physical Safety Team throughout the day. Category Moderate and above are followed up by Physical Safety Team as routine however all Datix are read and lower graded events will be followed up if the aggressor is already known to team.

2,3 & 4 Please find below a spreadsheet with the data as per request:



Violence against  
staff spreadsheet.xls

5. This data is not held by NHS Borders. Data on the number of charges and prosecution of patients/visitors would be held by Police Scotland and therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data would be 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](mailto: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 **169-19** 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.