

## Freedom of Information request 282-19

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### Request

Name of Community Equipment Service:

1. What is the population size and geographical area served by your Community Equipment Service?
2. How many registered patients do you currently have with equipment on issue?
3. How much did you spend on pressure care items for community equipment from:
  - Beginning April 2018 – end March 2019?
  - Beginning April 2017 – end March 2018?
  - Beginning April 2016 – end March 2017?
4. How many community acquired grade 3 and 4 pressure ulcers were recorded within your area for the period:
  1. Beginning April 2018 – end March 2019?
  2. Beginning April 2017 – end March 2018?
  3. Beginning April 2016 – end March 2017?
5. How many community acquired grade 2 pressure ulcers were recorded within your area for the period:
  - Beginning April 2018 – end March 2019?
  - Beginning April 2017 – end March 2018?
  - Beginning April 2016 – end March 2017?
6. What pressure care equipment do you offer within your core stock? EG: Static mattress, air flow mattress, static pressure cushion, air pressure cushions, flexi gel pads, heel boots etc
  - And how many on average do you issue of each per month?
7. Please can you share any guidance / clinical criteria used by clinicians when selecting which pressure area care equipment to issue?

### Response

1. The Borders Community Equipment Service covers all the Scottish Borders which has a population of approx 115,000.
2. As at 27 June 2019 there are 10984 clients registered with items in use.
3. Although this information is held, we cannot run reports to separate this information from other orders. To complete the request we would need to manually pull data from around 14,000 delivery items and repeat for each year and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations, therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 we are not required to provide.

4. Please find below the number of community acquired grade 3 and 4 pressure ulcers recorded within NHS Borders for the period:

- Beginning April 2018 – end March 2019 - 12 in total, 5 grade 4, 7 grade 3
- Beginning April 2017 – end March 2018 - 3 in total, all grade 4
- Beginning April 2016 – end March 2017 - 9 in total, 7 grade 3, 2 grade 4

Please note the higher number in the period 2018-19 was related to a specific focus on pressure damage by the tissue viability nurses. It is within the realms of possibility that this has resulted in better reporting practice as well as better recognition and treatment.

5. Please find below the number of community acquired grade 2 pressure ulcers recorded within NHS Borders for the period:

- Beginning April 2018 – end March 2019 - 26
- Beginning April 2017 – end March 2018 - 10
- Beginning April 2016 – end March 2017 – 24

6. Please find below the average number of pressure care equipment issued each month:

- Static Pressure Cushions – 71
- Memory foam style cushions - 23
- Airflow style cushions - 5
- Basic Foam mattresses – 26
- Memory foam style mattresses – 40
- Air flow mattresses – 18

7. Please find below a copy of all guidance/criteria used by clinicians when selecting which pressure area care equipment to issue:



Mattress Guidance  
June 2019 V2.pdf



Chair Cushion  
Guidance version 2 ju



heel offloading  
Guidance 2019.pdf



new waterlow  
guidance 3.pdf

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 **282-19** 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.