

## Freedom of Information request 341-19

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### Request

This request is being sent to both NHS hospital trust and Council governed public mortuaries. As such some questions will not be relevant to you. (Such questions have been noted in RED)

- 1.) What is the most amount of post mortem cases that you are able to carry out in a single post mortem session?
- 2.) How many hospital post mortem examinations did you undertake between 1st April 2018 – 1st April 2019? (NHS only)
- 3.) How many coronial post mortem examinations did you undertake between 1st April 2018 – 1st April 2019?
- 4.) What is the average number of hospital post mortem examinations that you have undertaken over the past 3 financial years? (NHS only)
- 5.) What is the average number of coronial post mortem examinations that you have undertaken over the past 3 financial years?
- 6.) How many brain & spinal cord donations have you carried out over within the mortuary over the past 3 financial years?
- 7.) How many members of staff do you employ within the mortuary? (This includes administration staff)
- 8.) What qualifications (In relation to mortuary activity) do your employees currently hold?
- 9.) What NHS pay bands are your employees in? (NHS only)
- 10.) What is your capacity for the storage of deceased?
- 11.) Does your mortuary charge undertakers/service users for storage of deceased? (Assuming that the deceased would remain in your care for an extended period of time once they have been released to go.)
- 12.) If the answer to question 11 is yes, are the premises risk assessed and do they coincide with HTA regulations?
- 13.) Do you store deceased patients' offsite with non NHS service users? (NHS only)
- 14.) Do you actively undertake increased risk post mortem work? (Blood borne)
- 15.) Do you actively undertake increased risk post mortem work? (Air borne)

### Response

1. NHS Borders do not carry out post mortem examinations.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. Not applicable.
7. The NHS Borders mortuary is managed within the Portering department with management/supervision/admin support. There are no mortuary staff employed.
8. As no post mortems are carried out within NHS Borders no qualifications are required for portering duties.

9. NHS Borders portering staff are employed on A&C Band 2.
10. NHS Borders have 22 fridges for the storage of bodies.
11. No.
12. Not applicable.
13. No.
14. Not applicable.
15. Not applicable.

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 **341-19** 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.