

Freedom of Information request 375-19

Request

This application is under FOISA legislation, individually and otherwise, for the following information concerning the staffing of NHS chronic pain services in your health board area:

1. a) Breakdown of the numbers of staff and working time of each of the following disciplines: Chronic Pain clinician number/s, psychologist, nurse, physiotherapist, occupational therapist, pharmacist, administrator.

b) Please show appointments full time or WTE, and for others the hours worked weekly on chronic pain service duties.
2. The number of new chronic pain patient referrals in 2018.
3. The number or estimate of return chronic pain patient visits in 2018 or annual estimate by clinicians.
4. Have your services received any additional public funding since 2016 to aid waiting times and, if so, how much?
5. When did your CP services last receive a budget increase?

Response

1. Please find below the number of staff and working time of NHS Borders Chronic Pain staff:

2 x Consultant Anaesthetists, 1 x Associate Specialist; this equates to 25hrs (5 sessions per week) split between the 3
1 x Psychologist – 0.4WTE
1 x Physiotherapist- 0.5WTE
1 x Occupational Therapist- 0.4WTE
1 x Clinical Nurse Specialist- 0.8WTE
1 x Secretary-0.8WTE
2. In 2018 there was 394 referrals of those 340 were accepted and 54 rejected.
3. There was a total of 608 review appointments sent out, of those 575 attended and 29 DNAs.
4. NHS Borders have not received any additional funding to aid Chronic Pain waiting times over this period.
5. The Chronic Pain Service receive annual budget increases to cover pay awards and inflation.

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 **375-19** 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.