

Freedom of Information request 456-19

Request

Could I please obtain the figures on how many NHS patients in your area have died due to drug-related issues since January 1 2019? Can I have this information broken down year by year (Oct-Oct).

I also request that these figures be broken down into the following specific drugs: Heroin, Methadone, Codeine, Cocaine, Dihydrocodeine, Any Opioid or opiate.

Can I also request the same figures for a) Prescribable benzodiazepines (such as Diazepam) and b) Street benzodiazepines (such as Etizolam).

For your convenience my queries stem from page 53 on this NRS document released in July:
<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/drug-related-deaths/2018/drug-related-deaths-18-pub.pdf>.

CLARIFICATION RECVD:

Could I please obtain the figures on how many NHS patients in your area have died due to drug-related issues since October 1 2009? Can I have this information broken down year by year (Oct-Oct)

Response

Please note this data is already available at NRS at the following link:

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths/drug-related-deaths-in-scotland>

Therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is 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.

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 **456-19** 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.

