

## Freedom of Information request 476-19

---

### Request

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 200 to request the following information from you.

1. Could you (i) please disclose if your Health Board has agreed a 'plan of action' for the implementation of mechanical thrombectomy services in your area? If so, could you (ii) please share a copy of said action plan?
2. Could you (i) please disclose who, at Health Board level, is responsible for the implementation of said plan?
3. Do you (i) have any plans to train relevant consultants in the techniques required to provide mechanical thrombectomy services? If so, could you (ii) please disclose how many consultants you plan to train, and (iii) by what date you expect them to complete their training?
4. Could you (i) please disclose by what date does your Health Board expect to make mechanical thrombectomy services available to stroke patients in your area?
5. In case you do not plan to offer mechanical thrombectomy services, could you (i) please indicate which centre will provide this service for your patients?

### Response

1. Planning is currently underway within the organisation in conjunction with NHS Lothian to develop a thrombectomy service for Borders patients. Currently, NHS Borders provides a hub and spoke service with NHS Lothian for the provision of thrombolysis when a local Stroke Consultant is not available. Similarly, the thrombectomy service will operate from NHS Lothian and we will link into their service. No action plan has yet been developed.
2. NHS Borders Stroke Managed Clinical Network, a group of senior clinicians and managers responsible for stroke services, are responsible for the implementation of this service.
3. Consultant training will be responsibility of NHS Lothian.
4. Within the next 2 years.
5. NHS Lothian's Royal Infirmary Edinburgh.

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 **476-19** 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.