

Freedom of Information request 494-19

Request

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information on attacks on staff:

1. Please provide the total number of attacks on NHS staff recorded in a) 2017 b) 2018 c) 2019.
2. Please provide detail of the type of attacks, (i.e. verbal, physical)

Response

NHS Borders has the facility within its adverse events reporting system to record on one report the number of times an event has happened over a 24 hour period. This is to facilitate low impact event reporting that happens on a frequent basis. The totals reflect this frequency reporting.

Previously we have been unable to extract this information from the system specifically for staff members. Due to an adjustment within the system this data collection is now possible.

1. Please find below the number of attacks on NHS staff in the years requested:

Date	No of Adverse Events
01.01.2017-31.12.2017	902
01.01.2018-31.12.2018	952
01.01.2019-25.10.2019	803

2. Please find below the type of attacks:

Type of event	2017	2018	2019
Alcohol related aggression and violence	36	27	18
Improper behaviour	25	26	100
Physical aggression by other	2	6	1
Physical aggression by patient	499	473	353
Staff-staff aggression	12	6	14
Use of weapon	2	5	4
Verbal aggression by other	66	119	44
Verbal aggression by patient	260	290	269

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 **494-19** 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.