

Freedom of Information request 527-19

Request

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please could you tell me for each month in 2018 and 2019

1. The total number of people who were clinically ready for discharge from inpatient hospital care but who continued to occupy a hospital bed because their discharge had been delayed.

And of these people,

2. How many died while waiting to be discharged?
3. How many developed a healthcare related infection (HAI) while waiting to be discharged?
4. And, if possible, how many were treated for any illness or health related incident, other than a HAI and for which they were not originally admitted, while waiting to be discharged?

Response

1-3 Please find attached below the data requested for q1-3:

Month	Total Cases	Patient Died	Developed a HAI
Jan-18	76	<5	
Feb-18	52	0	
Mar-18	72	<5	
Apr-18	62	<5	
May-18	87	<5	
Jun-18	67	<5	
Jul-18	73	<5	
Aug-18	58	0	
Sep-18	71	<5	
Oct-18	69	<5	
Nov-18	91	<5	
Dec-18	84	<5	
Jan-19	88	<5	
Feb-19	78	0	
Mar-19	78	<5	<5
Apr-19	72	<5	
May-19	77	<5	
Jun-19	93	<5	
Jul-19	86	0	
Aug-19	107	<5	
Sep-19	100	<5	
Oct-19	83	<5	

4. This level of information is not held electronically and would only be available in a patient's medical notes. To extract this data would require a manual trawl of all records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002 and therefore we are not required to provide.

As the number of events in some areas are very small and in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics any number that is less than five, actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the [ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol](#).

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 **527-19** 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.