

Freedom of Information request 556-19

Request

1. How many times in each of the last three financial years (up to and including March 31 2019) have patients who had been on a waiting list for treatment been removed from that waiting list following a review by health staff, for example a review by a member of a clinical team? Please break the figures down to show how long patients had been waiting for treatment at the time they were removed from the list. Please also break the figures down to show what speciality or department patients had been on the waiting list to be treated by (i.e. orthopaedics, cardiology, neurosurgery etc.).

Response

1. The table below details the number of patients removed from waiting lists following a review by health staff broken down by number of weeks the patient had been on the waiting list at the time of removal.

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
1-5 Weeks	28	24	29
6-10 Weeks	25	29	16
11-15 Weeks	26	35	22
16-20 Weeks	12	14	13
21-25 Weeks	5	16	14
26-30 Weeks	12	16	8
31-35 Weeks	6	9	10
36-40 Weeks	0	7	5
41-45 Weeks	<5	<5	<5
46-50 Weeks	<5	<5	<5
51-55 Weeks	0	0	0
56-60 Weeks	0	0	<5
61-65 Weeks	0	<5	0

The table below details the number of patients removed from waiting lists following a review by health staff broken down by department:

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
ENT	10	<5	<5
ENT Paediatrics	<5	<5	<5
General Surgery	13	25	12
Gynaecology	10	<5	<5
Ophthalmology	19	27	37
Oral Surgery Paediatrics	<5	0	0
Oral Surgery/Medicine	0	<5	0
Orthopaedic Surgery	35	62	41
Paediatric Surgery	<5	0	0
Urology	12	13	14

As the number of events in some areas are very small and in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics for 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 **556-19** 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.