

Freedom of Information request 565-19

Request

I request the following information under FOI:

1. A full statistical count of all and any complaints of anticatholic social sentiment, civil discrimination or criminal hate crime between 30/09/2002 and 15/12/2019 within Borders General Hospital.
2. A full statistical count of all and any complaints of anticatholic social sentiment, civil discrimination or criminal hate crime between 30/09/2002 and 15/12/2019 within the South Team.
3. A full statistical count of all and any complaints of anticatholic social sentiment, civil discrimination or criminal hate crime between 30/09/2002 and 15/12/2019 within the Selkirk Medical Practice.

If any complaints have been registered then please disclose:

- i) All details describing the allegations made in such complaints while redacting the names of the accuser, assessor of such complainants and the accused between 30/09/2002 and 15/12/2019.
- ii) All details of the investigations undertaken in regards each complaint along with the eventual conclusion, verdict and justification given for such between 30/09/2002 and 15/12/2019.
- iii) All details in regards what measures were taken by NHS Borders or any other entity on NHS Borders behalf to give justice to the accuser in complaints upheld or to give justice to the accused in complaints not upheld or to otherwise reach a resolution acceptable to both parties in lieu of taking any action between 30/09/2002 and 15/12/2019.

Finally I request the following:

4. A full copy of any and all equality policies, human rights policies or other policies applicable to the dates of 30/09/2002 and 15/12/2020 regarding the protected characteristic of Catholicism within NHS Borders premises.
5. A full detail of any and all attempts by NHS Borders to seek to involve, recruit to volunteer or otherwise enlist to paid employment Catholics to the trust between 30/09/2002 and 15/12/2019.
6. A full count of all staff who have identified themselves as Catholic within Selkirk Medical Practice, South Team, or any other premises of the organisation whatsoever between 30/09/2002 and 15/12/2019.

Response

1. During the period covered by NHS Borders' DATIX records (2011-2019) we have not received any complaints resulting from anti-catholic discrimination within Borders General Hospital (BGH).
2. During the period covered by NHS Borders' DATIX records (2011-2019) we have not received any complaints resulting from anti-catholic discrimination within the South Community Mental Health Team.

3. NHS Borders do not hold data on complaints received by Selkirk Medical Practice. GP practices are independent contractors and as such have their own feedback and complaints procedures. Therefore under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 NHS Borders do not hold this information and under Section 25 this data can be obtained from the Practice Manager at Selkirk Health Centre.

i-iii) Not applicable.

4. Please find attached copies of the policies listed below:



BH Policy v3.1.pdf



Equal opps policy - final version - 2010-0-



Model Equality policy - Borderised PIN - 20'

5. NHS Borders has not engaged in any positive action schemes between 30 September 2002 and 15 December 2019.

6. Within NHS Borders we have recorded 307 staff who have identified as being of catholic religion; this data includes the South Team, or any other premises of the organisation whatsoever between 30/09/2002 and 15/12/2019. Please note this is not a mandatory field for employees to complete therefore this number is only for those who have chosen to identify their religion.

NHS Borders do not hold data on Selkirk Medical Practice. GP practices are independent contractors and as such hold their own employee records. Therefore under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 NHS Borders do not hold this information and under Section 25 this data can be obtained from the Practice Manager at Selkirk Health Centre.

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 **565-19** 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.