

Freedom of Information request 5-20

Request

I'd like to make the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act.

Please disclose:

1. How many bariatric beds are currently in use within your health board's facilities? Please disclose type/brand name/model of equipment where possible.
2. How many were in use five years ago?
3. How much money have your health board spent in the past five years on buying and hiring bariatric beds, and how many in total have been purchased in that period? If possible, broken down by year.
4. Please disclose the number of bariatric/weight loss surgeries carried out in your area over the past five years, broken down by year and the type of surgery (e.g gastric banding, gastric bypass etc) performed.
5. Please also disclose the total cost to the health board for these surgeries over that five year period, again broken down by year.

Response

1. NHS Borders currently has one bariatric bed in use. This is an Aurum bed.
2. NHS Borders orders beds as required throughout the year. In 2015 our expenditure on hire of bariatric beds was £54,758.
3. The table below details expenditure on purchase and hire of bariatric beds over the past 5 years, along with the number of beds purchased within each year:

Year	Expenditure	Beds Purchased
2015	£54,758	0
2016	£13,655	0
2017	£39,622	0
2018	£42,905	0
2019	£48,549	1

- 4-5. The table below details the number of bariatric surgeries carried out over the past 5 years:

Year	Surgeries Performed	Cost of Surgeries
2015/16	<5 Gastric Bypasses	£20,331
2016/17	<5 Sleeve Gastrectomies	£6,892
2017/18	Nil	Nil
2018/19	<5 Gastric Bypasses	£8,228
2019/20 (to 8 January 2020)	<5 Sleeve Gastrectomies	£13,846

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 **5-20** 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.