

Freedom of Information request 109-20

Request

I am currently working to understand the nature and provision of Restrictive Interventions and policies related to such interventions.

I am seeking this information across all mental health units within your Trust and may use the information to compare practice across Trusts. It is with this in mind that I am writing to make an open government request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

My questions are as follows:

1. Do mental health units in your Trust record incidents of restraint used by staff on patients?
2. If yes, how many incidents of restraint were recorded in the mental health units in your Trust in the years a) 2019, b) 2018, c) 2017? (If data is not available for this time period, please provide us with the most up-to-date statistics.)
3. Do you record how many patients are subject to the use of restraint by staff?
4. If yes, how many patients were subject to the use of restraint by staff in mental health units in your Trust in the years a) 2019, b) 2018, c) 2017? (If data is not available for this time period, please provide us with the most up-to-date statistics.)
5. Do you record injuries that resulted from incidents of restraint in mental health units used by practitioners on patients?
6. If yes, how many injuries that resulted from incidents of restraint were recorded in mental health units in your Trust in the years a) 2019, b) 2018, c) 2017? (If data is not available for this time period, please provide us with the most up-to-date statistics.)
7. Do mental health units in your trust have a policy in place for a Restrictive Intervention Reduction Programme? Please provide a copy of or a link to the most recent policy.
8. How many incidents of restraint were recorded per 1,000 bed hours in mental health units in your Trust?

Response

1. Yes.
2. The table below details the number of restraint events recorded in Mental Health units between 2017 and 2019:

Year	Number of Restraint Events
2017	13
2018	24
2019	20

3. This data is not held electronically. The information may be held in patients' notes, however to extract this data would require a manual trawl of patient notes of all Mental Health patients over the requested three year period. The cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, therefore under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 we are not required to provide this information.
4. Not applicable.
5. Yes.
6. The table below details the number of restraint events recorded in Mental Health units between 2017 and 2019 that resulted in injury:

Year	Number of Restraint Events Resulting in Injury
2017	<5
2018	0
2019	<5

Please note that as the number of events in some areas are very small, 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 Protocol](#).

7. NHS Borders Mental Health units do not have a policy for restrictive intervention.

8. The table below details the number of restraint events per 1,000 bed hours:

Year	Number of Restraint Events Per 1,000 Bed Hours
2017	0.0020
2018	0.0036
2019	0.0032

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 **109-20** 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.