

Freedom of Information request 210-20

Request

Under FOI legislation can I please request the following, for your health board:

1. The number of people tested for COVID-19 through your clinical laboratories?
2. The number of tests carried out for COVID-19 through your clinical laboratories?
3. The number of inconclusive tests carried out for COVID-19, and the number of people tested twice for that reason, through your clinical laboratories?
4. Number of COVID-19 test samples lost or mishandled since start of outbreak, and number of people tested twice for that reason, through your clinical laboratories?

Response

1. Up until 1 June 2020, NHS Borders had tested 2331 persons through our laboratory.
2. Up until 1 June 2020, we had 3238 tests requested through our laboratory.
3. Unfortunately this information is not recorded. As we have 2 differing types of analyser we can analyse a sample by 2 methodologies if one is inconclusive so although the sample is tested twice, the person isn't. The number of occurrences is not available. Therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.
4. NHS Borders has one recorded incident whereby a sample was lost when referred onwards to another laboratory.

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 **210-20** 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.