

Freedom of Information request 226-20

Request

- 1) How many covid-19 outbreaks have there been in care homes in your region between March 1st and June 16th 2020?
- 2) How many care homes did you provide oxygen to as a result of covid-19 outbreaks between:
 - March 1st to April 15th
 - April 15th to June 16th
- 3) How many hospital patients were discharged to care homes between:
 - March 1st to April 15th
 - April 15th to June 16th
- 4) How many hospital patients discharged to care homes were tested for covid-19? Please give totals for:
 - March 1st to April 15th
 - April 15th to June 16th
- 5) How many of the test results in Q4 were:
 - positive
 - negative
 - inconclusive/ void
- 6) How many of the hospital patients discharged to care homes who tested positive for covid-19 were asymptomatic?
- 7) How many covid-19 related ambulance call-out requests did you receive from care homes between:
 - March 1st to April 15th
 - April 15th to June 16th
- 8) How many of the call-out requests referred to in Q6 did you send an ambulance to between:
 - March 1st to April 15th
 - April 15th to June 16th
- 9) How many care home residents did you admit to hospital between March 1st to June 16th. Please give totals for:
 - Those with suspected or confirmed covid-19
 - Non-covid-19 related patients

Response

- 1) This information is held by Scottish Borders Council, therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.
- 2) This information is held by Scottish Borders Council, therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

- 3) Please find below the number of hospital patients discharged to care homes between:
- March 1st to April 15th - 70
 - April 15th to June 16th – 97
- 4) Formal guidance was issued by the Scottish Government to NHS boards which came into effect on 26th April 2020, requiring all Covid-19 patients to have 2 negative tests before discharge and all other patients to have 1 negative test:
- a) 11 patients were tested for Covid-19 before discharge to care homes between 1st March and 15th April
- b) 94 patients were tested for Covid-19 before discharge to care homes between 16th April and 16th June.
- The 3 patients not tested before discharge were transferred on 18/04, 22/04 and 23/04, prior to the formal guidance for care home testing being issued. None of these patients were transferred from a Covid ward and none of them have subsequently tested positive for Covid.
- 5) Please find below the data as per request:
- a. 4 patients had a positive test before discharge to a care home;
- i) 2 patients transferred over 3 weeks from date of last positive test (so were no longer within infectious period)
 - ii) 2 patients admitted from a care home with known Covid and subsequently transferred back to the same care home. These transfers were based on clinical guidance and in the best interests of the patient
- b. 101 patients had 1 or more negative tests before discharge to a care home. (9 patients had previously tested positive on admission or during their hospital stay, but had 2 negative tests before discharge)
- c. 0 (any inconclusive / void test results were repeated)
- 6) If this question is seeking to understand cases where asymptomatic COVID-19 positive patients were transferred to care homes, then this question is not applicable to NHS Borders. Any patients that tested positive for the first time after transfer to a care home did so more than 20 days after discharge from hospital. Therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.
- 7) This information is held by Scottish Ambulance Service, therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.
- 8) This information is held by Scottish Ambulance Service, therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.
- 9) This information is not held. NHS Borders only report on patients who went on to be covid positive or negative but not suspected. Therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.

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 **226-20** 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.