

Freedom of Information request 309-20

Request

1) Are you commissioning post-covid services:

1. in hospital

OR

b) in the community?

2) Can you describe these services?

3) How much have you spent on these services?

4) How many patients have accessed your post-covid services?

Clarification Received:

With regard to Q1, I mean 'post-covid services' defined as services designed to treat patients with covid-19 who were *not* hospitalized with the virus and who have *not* necessarily had a positive test for covid-19.

With regard to Q1, I mean 'commissioning' defined as planning, providing, and/ or funding clinical services designed to specifically treat the health needs of the cohort of patients defined above.

With regard to Q1, to clarify, please provide information about any speciality treatment being provided for the cohort of patients as defined above.

Response

1. a) No additional post covid services have been commissioned in hospital to date.
b) No additional services in the community have been developed specifically for patients recovering from Covid-19 to date.
2. Although NHS Borders have not commissioned any 'post-covid' services patients admitted to hospital with Covid-19 have had access to AHP services like every other patient group throughout their patient journey. All patients reviewed by AHP services admitted with Covid-19 received information prior to discharge to aid further self-management at home.

A wide range of AHP services exist within the community which are able to treat post-covid symptoms. These include physiotherapy, occupational therapy, dietetics, speech and language therapy, alongside community support services. These services allow a patient-centred approach where each patient is reviewed by the most appropriate professional. Each service works with patients to create patient centred goals and a treatment plan to achieve these. All AHP services seek to promote independence and self-management where possible.

3. As no specific post-covid service exists, it is not possible to provide this information.
4. As no specific post-covid service exists, it is not possible to provide this information.

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 **309-20** 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.