

Freedom of Information request 330-20

Request

Prof. Jason Leitch said at the Scottish Government briefing of 17/8/20: “I know that local incident management teams look very closely to try and backwards trace because we want to know where infections are coming from so that in the round we can make choices, we can advise the ministers about Spain or about France or about wherever else things are happening.”

Please would you send me the following information:

- a. The number of people testing positive for COVID-19 in your area since 1/6/20 where the person was infected within Scotland.
- b. The number of people testing positive for COVID-19 in your area since 1/6/20 where the person was infected outwith Scotland.
- c. Of those cases in b), a breakdown of the countries which were the source of the infection (including England, Wales or Northern Ireland).
- d. The number of people testing positive for COVID-19 in your area since 1/6/20 where it is unknown where the person became infected.
- e. Where there have been clusters of cases since 1/6/20, the total number of people infected where the index case was infected within Scotland.
- f. Where there have been clusters of cases since 1/6/20, the total number of people infected where the index case was infected outwith Scotland.
- g. For each cluster in f), the country which was the source of the infection (including England, Wales or Northern Ireland).

Response

Data regarding the number of positive COVID-19 tests per Health Board is published by Public Health Scotland and can be accessed here: <https://publichealthscotland.scot/our-areas-of-work/sharing-our-data-and-intelligence/coronavirus-covid-19-data-and-guidance/>. Therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

Regarding the country of COVID-19 infection; NHS Borders do not hold this data as we do not record details about the entire 14 days prior to a positive test or start of symptoms. Therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held so cannot be provided.

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 **330-20** 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.