

Freedom of Information request 333-20

Request

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

1. The total number of staff working as contact tracers as part of the Test and Protect programme.
2. The number of contact tracers who have newly been recruited to the health board since May 2020.
3. The total number of staff who have been redeployed from other roles within the health board to work as contact tracers.
4. The number of staff currently redeployed as contact tracers who will need to return to their original role within the next three months.

Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act I understand that I can specify the format in which the information is provided so please provide the answers in a excel spreadsheet.

Response

1. As of 9 September NHS Borders had 11 members of staff able to interview cases (also able to contact trace) and a 9 members of staff working as contact tracers only (i.e. who do not interview the case).
2. No recruitment has been undertaken for contact tracing.
3. As of 9 September there were 20 members of staff deployed to work as contact tracers (including case interviewers).
4. None of the staff deployed as contact tracers are expected to return to their original role within the next 3 months.

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 **333-20** 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.