

Freedom of Information request 423-20

Request

1. As at 30 September 2020, what is the number of medical consultant posts (including NHS and honorary) in your board by WTE for the following (please note that all posts should be counted under ONE category only):
 - i. posts occupied by a permanent consultant
 - ii. newly-created posts which have not yet been advertised
 - iii. vacant posts according to the ISD definition (“a post which has been cleared for advert after being through the redeployment process (internal or external advert) and remains a vacancy until an individual starts in the post”)
 - iv. vacant posts which are awaiting approval for recruitment
 - v. posts which although currently unfilled are not under active recruitment, e.g. where a previous recruitment exercise has been unsuccessful
 - vi. all posts occupied by a locum consultant (including consultants re-engaged as locums who previously held a permanent post and those locum consultants employed via an agency)
 - vii. posts that have been recruited to but applicant not yet in post (e.g. deferred start due to pending CCT)
 - viii. other (please be specific)
2. As of 30 September 2020, how many of the posts listed under iii-viii above have not been occupied by a permanent substantive post holder since 31 March 2020?

Response

1.
 - i. NHS Borders has 89 posts occupied by a permanent consultant.
 - ii. None.
 - iii. NHS Borders has 8 headcount vacancies; 7.30 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) (Dermatology, Acute Medicine, Clinical Radiology, Haematology, Stroke /GIM, Paediatrics, Old Age Psychiatry)
 - iv. None.
 - v. NHS Borders has 5 headcount posts currently unfilled; 4.6 WTE (Dermatology, Acute Medicine, Clinical Radiology, Stroke /GIM, Obs & Gyn)
 - vi. NHS Borders has 10 headcount posts occupied by a locum consultant; 8.20 WTE (Old Age Psychiatry, GA Psychiatry, Ophthalmology, General Surgery, Respiratory Medicine, General Medicine, Obs & Gyn)
 - vii. Two posts have been recruited to but applicant is not yet in post (Consultant Paediatrics and Consultant General Surgery).
2. As of 30 September 2020 there were 7 posts – 6.3 WTE not held by a permanent substantive postholder since 31 March 2020.

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 **423-20** 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.