

Freedom of Information request 450-20

Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information:

How many caesarean births have taken place within your health board over the last five years – including so far in 2020?

Could I get a breakdown for each year please?

Is it possible for you to say how much each caesarean operation costs the NHS health board?

Response

1. The figures for C Section deliveries are as follows:

2016 - 264
2017 - 265
2018 - 257
2019 - 268
2020 - 226 to date

2. We are unable to provide a specific cost for caesarean surgery, therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.

Under Section 15 Duty to provide advice and assistance NHS Borders average cost from the ISD cost book (2018-2019) for an Obstetrics inpatient (which includes caesarean section) was £1,178. This is an average cost of an Obstetrics inpatient and not specific to caesarean patients only.

The exact cost of a caesarean procedure will vary depending on the clinical factors involved. Such as whether it is planned or unplanned procedure, the length of stay required and complications involved.

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 **450-20** 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.