

Freedom of Information request 452-20

Request

I would like to have information pertaining to:

1. How many pharmacists the Health Board provided to cover community pharmacies claiming they could not find a locum and on what dates the cover was provided between March 23rd and October 31st 2020.
2. How many pharmacies informed the Health Board that they would not be opening their pharmacy due to a lack of locums and on what dates between March 23rd and October 31st 2020

Response

1. NHS Borders have not provided any pharmacists to cover community pharmacies who claimed they could not find a locum in the period requested.
2. There was only 1 full day (28 April 2020) where a Pharmacy could not open – it is usually an hour or so at start of day while they wait for a locum to arrive when pharmacist sick etc. Dates listed in table below:

Date of Closure	Closure Duration (hh:mm:ss)
28/04/2020	all day
18/05/2020	01:00:00
08/06/2020	03:00:00
15/06/2020	00:30:00
06/07/2020	01:00:00
13/07/2020	03:00:00
13/08/2020	01:00:00
24/08/2020	00:45:00
16/10/2020	03:00:00
26/10/2020	00:30:00
07/11/2020	01:00:00

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 **452-20** 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.