

## Freedom of Information request 494-20

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### Request

I would be grateful for the following information about your board:

1. what are the committees in which the current whistleblowing champion is a member/chair/vice chair?
2. which committee oversees whistleblowing cases?
3. how many cases were reported/investigated under current whistleblowing policy from February to date 2020?
4. what is the mechanism for the whistleblowing champion to be made aware of whistleblowing cases and at what stage?
5. which committee oversees bullying, harassment and victimisation?
6. does the whistleblowing champion sit in any group, such as whistleblowing implementation steering group/etc, in preparation prior to the launch of national standards /INWO?

### Response

1. Our Non Executive Whistleblowing Champion is a member of the following Board Committees – Resource & Performance Committee, Clinical Governance Committee, Staff Governance Committee, Endowment Fund Board of Trustees. The NHS Borders Whistleblowing Champion is also a voting member of our Integration Joint Board and our Integration Joint Board Audit Committee.
2. The Staff Governance Committee oversees whistleblowing cases.
3. There have been two whistleblowing cases reported or investigated within NHS Borders for the period in question.
4. Within NHS Borders the Whistleblowing Champion would be notified as soon as practicable after it was known that someone wished to access the whistleblowing standards. At present, it is the Director of Workforce who would initiate contact.
5. Data on activity in these areas is provided to the Staff Governance Committee and Area Partnership Forum.
6. The Whistleblowing Champion contributed to the Whistleblowing Short Life Working Group..

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](mailto: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 **494-20** 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.