

Freedom of Information request 14-21

Request

We previously submitted a request regarding the impact of COVID-19 on your health visiting teams. Thank you very much for your time and help in answering our request, the information you have provided is very useful.

One Health Board responded to our request and informed us that given the differences in school starting age in Scotland, health visiting teams in Scotland are responsible for children aged 5 as well as those under 5. In order to accurately estimate the caseload of health visiting teams, we wish to also ask for this information. The data you gave us on the number of children under 5 years of age is still useful for us though, as we wish to draw comparisons between Scotland and England.

As a reminder, previously we asked:

Regarding your health visiting teams for Borders on the 1st February 2020: What was the total number of children under 5 years of age that your health visiting teams were responsible for?

We are writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from Borders Health Board.

1. What was the total number of children under 6 years of age that your health visiting teams were responsible for on 1st February 2020?

In addition, regarding your health visiting teams for Borders, we wish to ask for which years prior to 2020 do you hold data on:

2. The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) health visitors that were employed in your health visiting teams, broken down by NHS pay band?
3. The number of FTE health visitors with caseload that were employed in your health visiting teams, broken down by NHS pay band?
4. The number of FTE clinical staff (who are NOT coded as health visitors) that were employed in your health visiting teams, broken down by NHS pay band?
5. The number of FTE clinical staff (who are NOT coded as health visitors) with caseload that were employed in your health visiting teams, broken down by NHS pay band?

Response

1. A total of 6136 children under 6 years of age are under the responsibility of NHS Borders health visiting teams.
2. NHS Borders hold payroll files for a statutory period of 10 years.
3. NHS Borders hold payroll files for a statutory period of 10 years.
4. NHS Borders hold payroll files for a statutory period of 10 years.
5. NHS Borders hold payroll files for a statutory period of 10 years.

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 **14-21** 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.