

## Freedom of Information request 199-21

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### Request

1. Please provide details of the number of workplace outbreaks in your health board area since March 2020?
2. Please provide details of the number of workplace outbreaks in food processing/manufacturing since March 2020 in your health board area?
3. In how many of these outbreaks was there an Incident Management Team set up?
4. How many of these outbreaks involved a workplace investigation entailing consultation/communication with management and at what level? Did this investigation include Head Offices and other workplaces owned by the business?
5. How many of these outbreaks involved a workplace investigation involving consultation/communication with the workforce?
6. How many of these IMTs included members from the HSE or Local Authority Environmental Health Officers specifically to inform the IMT investigation of COVID-related occupational health and safety concerns?
7. How many IMTs contained members from Local Authority Environmental Health Department to provide expertise on food hygiene and safety?
8. How many IMTs had members from Food Standards Scotland?

### Response

1. 36 workplace settings have had outbreaks.
2. 3 food processing/manufacturing have had workplace outbreaks (this includes food retailers).
3. All 3 food processing/manufacturing outbreaks had an Incident Management Team (IMT) set up.
4. All incident meetings included consultation and communication with senior management of companies. They were also involved in IMT meetings.
5. All 3 outbreaks had communication with the workforce supported by the Communications Teams in NHS Borders and Scottish Borders Council along with the employers. In some cases a visit was paid to the workplace by Environmental Health colleagues from Scottish Borders Council.
6. All three IMTs had Environmental Health colleagues from Scottish Borders Council in attendance. In some of the larger settings Environmental Health Officers liaised directly with HSE to resolve identified issues.
7. All IMTs had Environmental Health colleagues from Scottish Borders Council in attendance.

8. All IMTs had attendance from Public Health Scotland who liaises with Food Standards Scotland. Food Standards Scotland did not contribute directly to the IMTs.

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 **199-21** 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.