

## Freedom of Information request 68-22

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### Request

#### ACCESS TO AQUATIC PHYSIOTHERAPY

1. On behalf of which NHS Trust / Health Board are you responding?
2. Does your Trust / Health Board have access to a hydrotherapy pool?  
 Yes  
 No  
 Not anymore
3. If you do have access are your hydrotherapy pools onsite or offsite? (Tick all that apply)  
 Onsite  
 Offsite (NHS Facility)  
 Offsite (Non NHS Facility)
4. Were all your hydrotherapy pools open prior to the COVID-19 pandemic?  
 Yes  
 No
5. If you do not have access to hydrotherapy pools, please tick all answers that apply to answer why that is.  
 Closed Due to COVID-19  
 Lack of funds  
 Insufficient space  
 No local pool available  
 Not enough adequately trained staff  
 Lack of appropriate local patient population  
 Other (please specify)
6. How many hydrotherapy pools exist on your NHS Trust / Board's estate? Include those closed prior to COVID-19.
7. What are your closed hydrotherapy pools / departments now used for?

#### REOPENING OF HYDROTHERAPY POOLS

8. Will all your hydrotherapy pools be re-opening?  
 Yes, they are already open  
 Yes, there are plans to reopen  
 No  
 Not sure / don't know
9. When are your hydrotherapy pools scheduled to re-open?  
 Within 3 months  
 Within 6 months  
 Within 9 months  
 Within 12 months

Other (please specify)

10. If your hydrotherapy pools are not scheduled to reopen, why is that?(Please select all that apply)

Changing area capacity

Staffing to clean

Access to pool

Staff still redeployed

Other (please specify)

11. If your hydrotherapy pools are not scheduled to reopen, has a full public consultation taken place?

Yes

No

12. If your hydrotherapy pools are not scheduled to reopen has an equality impact assessment taken place?

Yes

No

### OPERATING HYDROTHERAPY POOLS

13. If your hydrotherapy pools are open or scheduled to open is / will your aquatic physiotherapy (hydrotherapy) service capacity be reduced as a result of COVID-19?

Yes

No

14. What capacity are / will you be able to offer compared to pre pandemic?  
Please enter a percentage (%).

15. Is / will your service be provided on a 1:1 basis?

Yes,

No we can take more than 1 patient in the pool at a time.

16. Is / will your service be provided with the therapist instructing from poolside

Yes,

No our therapist is able to treat from within the pool

17. Approximately how many sessions did you have access to your hydrotherapy pools on a weekly basis pre pandemic? (Where one session = one morning, afternoon or evening clinic)

18. Approximately how many sessions do you currently have access to your hydrotherapy pools on a weekly basis?

19. Which services use your hydrotherapy pools?

Rheumatology

MSK

Orthopaedics

Neurology

Paediatrics

Other (please specify)

20. Are your hydrotherapy pools used by inpatient or outpatient services?

Inpatients only

Outpatients only

Both inpatients and outpatients

21. Prior to the pandemic did you provide out of hours access to your hydrotherapy pools to patient groups or private groups? e.g. NASS, Private Clinics (Please provide a list)

Yes

No

22. Have these sessions restarted? (Please provide a list of those which have restarted)
- Yes
- No
23. Do you currently audit the use and effectiveness of aquatic physiotherapy (hydrotherapy)?
- Yes
- No
24. Please list outcome measures or tools used to audit the use and effectiveness of aquatic physiotherapy (hydrotherapy)?
25. If you are happy to be contacted for further information to support aquatic physiotherapy (hydrotherapy) services remobilise please provide an email address below.



FOI 68-22  
attachment.docx

## Response

Please see our response attached below:



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Response.docx

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 **68-22** 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.