

Freedom of Information request 80-22

Request

1. Please confirm if sterilising services for the sterilisation of theatre instruments run 7 days a week; If the service does not run 7 days a week, how many days of the week is the service running at present?
2. How many operations in NHS Borders have been cancelled in the last 12 months as a result of a lack of available sterile theatre equipment?
3. Does the lack of a service to sterilise theatre equipment 7 days a week impact upon the ability of NHS Borders staff to perform operations 7 days a week?

Response

1. Decontamination/Sterilisation services in NHS Borders run for 5.5 days (Monday to Friday with a half day on Saturdays) per week
2. There have been no operations cancelled due to lack of sterilised equipment in the last 12 months at NHS Borders.
3. No, this does not impact the ability of NHS Borders staff; the current service model for Theatres is a 5 day model with emergency cover over the weekend.

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 **80-22** 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.