

## Freedom of Information request 220-22

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### Request

1. Has the health board fully resumed antenatal services/maternity education classes, either in person or virtually, since the pandemic?
2. If not, is there a timetable in place for their resumption?
3. Has funding for antenatal classes been restored to its pre-pandemic level?

### Response

1. NHS Borders, as a health board, does not currently offer antenatal education directly. Instead we offer antenatal education online through the Scottish Government provided Solihull Antenatal Classes. Women are signposted to this course during their antenatal appointments. Information on antenatal education in Scotland is available to the public through this link: <https://www.perinatalnetwork.scot/>
2. The Maternity team are currently looking at resuming face to face antenatal education classes locally but no timescale has been put in place. In order to ensure we are providing an equitable service locations have to be agreed before we can move forward with this project.
3. There has never been specific funding from antenatal education. The budget to provide antenatal education comes from the maternity services budget as a whole which remained unchanged throughout the pandemic.

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 **220-22** 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.