

Freedom of Information request 241-22

Request

1. In this health board, what was the total expenditure on bariatric beds in the calendar year 2021? Please also provide the data for the calendar years 2020, 2019, 2018 and 2017. Please also provide the data for 2022 so far.
2. In this health board, what was the average waiting time for bariatric surgery in the calendar year 2021? Please also provide the data for the calendar years 2020, 2019, 2018 and 2017. Please also provide the data for 2022 so far.
3. In this health board, what was the longest waiting time for bariatric surgery in the calendar year 2021? Please also provide the data for the calendar years 2020, 2019, 2018 and 2017. Please also provide the data for 2022 so far.
4. In this health board, how many urgent referrals for medical help were received in the calendar year 2021 for people who had received weight loss surgery overseas which subsequently went wrong? Please also provide the data for the calendar years 2020, 2019, 2018 and 2017. Please also provide the data for 2022 so far.

Response

1. Please find below the total expenditure on bariatric beds by financial year:
 - 2022/23 £3,611.40 to date
 - 2021/22 £71,357.35
 - 2020/21 £57,686.50
 - 2019/20 £85,188.50
 - 2018/19 £13,689
 - 2017/18 £135,775.28
 - 2106/17 £46,698

2. As a general hospital NHS Borders does not perform bariatric surgery within local facilities. Patients requiring this treatment are sent to other NHS boards or in some cases where necessary into private providers, treatment requests can be made through the Extra Contractual Referral route. NHS Borders do not hold waiting times information for this procedure as the waiting times would fall under the provider of care delivering the surgical procedure. Therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.
3. As per response to the first question NHS Borders does not perform bariatric surgery within local facilities, therefore NHS Borders does not hold waiting times data for bariatric surgery. Therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.
4. The reporting system in place does not identify the numbers of patients being seen or the reasons to be seen within the Specialist Weight Management Team for post procedure complications from home or overseas treatment. Patients may also be seen by other healthcare professionals such as their GP if complications arise with no way knowing if the data is held or that the health board could access this information. Therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.

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 **241-22** 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.