

Freedom of Information request 483-22

Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following data:

- The number of oral cancer referrals received by hospitals in your Trust between January 2017 and the most recent completed month that is available (most likely July or August 2022). I also request this data be presented as monthly figures.



FOI 446-22 Response
Data.xlsx

Response

Please find attached the number of oral cancer referrals received by NHS Borders between January 2017 and August 2022:



FOI 483-22 Response
Data.xlsx

Please note that NHS Borders do not treat patients with Oral Cancer and local Dentists are asked to send referrals for patients with a suspicion of having Cancer direct to St John's Hospital (NHS Lothian), however some referrals were made to the Borders Oral Surgery (BOS) and passed to St John's Hospital (NHS Lothian), without the patient being seen by the local team. At the end of 2021, NHS Borders removed the option from Gateway to refer via BOS and added an instructional note for if there was a suspicion of Oral Cancer.

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 **483-22** 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.