

Freedom of Information request 524-22

Request

I am looking for information regarding patients who have left an NHS waiting list before receiving treatment or an operation.

Please provide the following information:

1. The total number of patients who have left an NHS waiting list in the last five years (until present) due to opting for a private healthcare treatment or operation instead.
2. For those people who left a waiting list in the last five years, please provide the duration of time they had waited for treatment or operation before they left the list.

Response

1. The total number of patients who left an NHS waiting list due to opting for a private healthcare treatment or operation instead are:

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 to 24 October
78	109	67	215	206

2. The duration of time the patients had been on the waiting list before leaving is:

Number of Weeks on List	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<=4 wks	41	34	20	35	25
5-8 wks	17	23	18	16	10
9-12 wks	11	28	10	16	12
13-18 wks	7	19	4	17	14
19-26 wks	1	5	4	27	21
27 -52 wks	1	0	11	52	67
53-102 wks	0	0	0	52	50
>102 wks	0	0	0	0	7
TOTAL	78	109	67	215	206

Please note – the table above shows the number of patients in each category of “Number of Weeks on List” within each of the years.

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 **524-22** 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.