

Freedom of Information request 542-22

Request

I have been told by my optician that I need cataract surgery for both eyes, and he has referred me to a consultant. I'm not asking you for a specific date but wondered if you have an idea of the average time for your waiting list. I have heard anything between 10 and 72 weeks so you can imagine how confused I am.

Response

NHS Borders current waiting times for Cataract Surgery, based on the maximum wait that 90% of patients seen within the past 3 months are:

- 90 weeks waiting time for outpatient appointment
- 30 weeks waiting for cataract surgery
- Total referral to treatment time of 120 weeks

These waiting times mean that, whilst most patients seen will have waited this number of weeks or less, a small number will have experienced a longer wait.

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 **542-22** 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.