

## Freedom of Information request 565-22

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### Request

1. Can you please confirm that NHS Borders are still offering adult ADHD assessments?

If the answer to question (1) is 'yes';

2. Can you please provide a monthly breakdown of the number of assessments that were carried out from October 2021 to October 2022.
3. Further to question (2), can you please provide the number of assessments that resulted in a diagnosis of ADHD?
4. Do the adult mental health team send/email a questionnaire to the patient ahead of the assessment?
5. Can you please provide a copy of the documentation/form (or a link) that is currently used to assess if an adult has ADHD?
6. Can you please provide the names of the professionals within NHS Borders who are qualified to assess if an adult has ADHD?
7. If there is a shortage of qualified professionals within NHS Borders who can diagnose adult ADHD, can you please confirm that the case will be passed to another health Board?

### Response

1. NHS Borders are still offering adult ADHD assessments where secondary care criteria are met within secondary care settings – in line with National Autism Implementation Team (NAIT) stepped care and approach recommendations.
2. NHS Borders do not electronically record if an adult ADHD assessment has been carried out, this information may be held in a patient's record, however there have been 11,192 referrals to Adult Mental Health Services between October 2021 and October 2022 and to extract the data requested would require a manual trawl of all these records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.
3. NHS Borders do not electronically record this data electronically, it may be held in a patient's records, however, to extract the data requested would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.
4. When secondary care criteria are met, it is likely the person will undergo a broad mental health assessment, covering the range of psychopathology. We will not send a questionnaire prior to the assessment appointment.

5. Please find attached the documentation / forms currently used within NHS Borders to assess if an adult has ADHD:



6. All NHS Borders Consultant Psychiatrists (for adult patients) are fully medically trained as part of a holistic assessment that would include ADHD. This is also complimented by all health professionals including Occupational Therapist and Registered Nurses.
7. There is a shortage of qualified professionals within NHS Borders who can assess and diagnose adult ADHD. We would not pass any cases to another Health Board and recognise at present there is a gap in service provision within Primary Care services.

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 **565-22** 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.