

## Freedom of Information request 619-22

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### Request

1. In your health board, what is the current average waiting time for children and young people to begin mental health treatment?
2. Can this be broken down for each of the last five financial years, including 2022-23?
3. In both days and weeks, what is the longest wait any one child or young person has had to wait to begin mental health treatment in your health board?
4. Can this also be broken down for each of the last five financial years?

### Response

1. The current average waiting time for children and young people to begin mental health treatment within NHS Borders is 20.1 weeks / 140 days (at 30 September 2022).
2. The average waiting time for children and young people to begin mental health treatment was:

Financial Year	Weeks	Days
2018 - 2019	19	133
2019 - 2020	11	77
2020 - 2021	19	133
2021 - 2022	22	154
2022 - 2023	33	231

3. The longest wait any one child or young person has had to wait to begin mental health treatment in NHS Borders was 102 weeks / 717 days – this was between 1 April 2018 (when the current electronic system commenced recording data) and 30 September 2022.
4. The longest wait any one child or young person has had to wait to begin mental health treatment in NHS Borders was:

Financial Year	Weeks	Days
2018 - 2019	39	273
2019 - 2020	37	259
2020 - 2021	57	399
2021 - 2022	102	717
2022 - 2023	89	623

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 **619-22** 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.