

Freedom of Information request 627-22

Request

1. How many unfilled shifts have there been in Out of Hours Services in this health board in each year since 2017, including the current calendar year to date?
2. How many GPs have been working out of hours in A&E departments or urgent treatment centres, including minor injury units or walk-in centres in this health board in each year since 2017, including the current calendar year to date?
3. How many healthcare professionals are working in primary care centres, A&E departments or urgent treatment centres in this health board? This would include any allied health professional who carries out out of hours care including dentists and optometrists etc. Please provide this for each year since 2017, including the current calendar year to date.
4. How many healthcare professionals (other than doctors) have made home visits after in this health board in each year since 2017, including the current calendar year to date? Use the above definition of healthcare professional.

Response

1. NHS Borders do not hold this data in unfilled shifts but can provide the number of hours where there has been no GP in our Out of Hours Service:
 - 2017-2018 - 324 hours
 - 2018-2019 - 308 hours
 - 2019-2020 - 478 hours
 - 2020-2021 - 486 hours
 - 2021-2022 - 514 hours (until 8 February 2022)
 - From 9 February - 30 November 2022 - 426 hours
2. Please find below the number of GPs who worked within our A&E department as at 1 December:
 - 01/12/2017 - 7
 - 01/12/2018 - 8
 - 01/12/2019 - 9
 - 01/12/2020 - 9
 - 01/12/2021 - 8
 - 01/12/2022 - 7
3. Please find below the number of healthcare professionals working in primary care centres, urgent treatment centre and the Emergency Department in NHS Borders on 1 December each year since 2017:

Date	Headcount of staff	WTE of staff
01/12/2017	80	51
01/12/2018	85	56
01/12/2019	82	54
01/12/2020	89	63
01/12/2021	98	71
01/12/2022	94	70

4. Allied Health Professionals, Dentists and Optometrists employed by NHS Borders do not make home visits for the Out of Hours Service, therefore no home visits have taken place in the period requested.

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 **627-22** 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.