

## Freedom of Information request 657-22

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### Request

I am looking for information, for each financial year since 2017/18 to 2022/23 (most recent), regarding:

1. The number of times an ambulance has been placed on 'divert' to another hospital with a patient in it
2. The number of times an ambulance has been placed on 'divert' to another hospital which is outwith that Health Board. For example, if an ambulance was called to an incident in Falkirk, but the ambulance was diverted from Forth Valley Hospital to another hospital in a different health board.

Can I also have a breakdown of the data by location, and why the diversion took place (no capacity etc)?

Please note that I recently submitted the same FOI to the Scottish Ambulance Service, but they inform me that this is data is held by health boards.

### Response

1. NHS Borders has not diverted any ambulances to another hospital from 2017/18 to present. Please note, Borders General Hospital has no other hospitals in NHS Borders to divert ambulances to.
2. NHS Borders has not diverted any ambulances to another hospital from 2017/18 to present. Please note, NHS Borders has bypass protocols for specific medical emergencies that are time critical and require services not available in the Borders General Hospital, however these are between the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh and Scottish Ambulance Service and NHS Borders would not be aware of this is occurring.

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 **657-22** 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.