

Freedom of Information request 665-22

Request

1. How many babies were born in this NHS health board in each year since 2018, including the current calendar year? Please break this down by NHS hospital.
2. How many of these births were water births? Please provide this for each calendar year since 2018, including the current year, and by NHS hospital?
3. How many of these births were C-Sections? Please provide this for each calendar year since 2018, including the current year, and by NHS hospital?
4. In relation to question 3, how many of these C-Sections were planned? Please provide this for each calendar year since 2018, including the current year, and by NHS hospital?

Response

Question	2018	2018	2020	2021	01/01/22-30/11/22
1 Total number of births	987	928	857	883	771
2 *Number of women using a pool during labour	116	109	92	78	60
3 Total number of Caesarean Sections	233	264	259	296	227
4 Number of Elective Caesarean Sections	114	105	118	141	90

*Please note, NHS Borders does not record electronically if a birth was a water birth, therefore this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. However, under Section 15 Duty to Provide Advice and Assistance of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, we have been able to provide the number of births where a woman used a birthing pool during labour.

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 **665-22** 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.