

Freedom of Information request 690-22

Request

1. I would like to request data on the number of individuals living in other parts of the UK (non-Scottish Boards) who have been referred to hospitals or consultants within your Board for treatment between 2015/16 and 2021/22. If available, I would also like to request the top five clinical indications/services for treatment each year.
2. I would also like to request data on the number of cases referred from other parts of the UK (non-Scottish Boards) to hospitals or consultants within your Board for consultation (for example this could be to confirm a diagnosis or engage with a specialised clinician) between 2015/16 and 2021/22. If available, I would also like to request the top five clinical indications/services for consultation each year.

In both data requests, I would like numbers to be broken down by year. If values are small (below 5) and therefore disclosive, please aggregate.

Response

Due to the demographics of the English/Scottish border, NHS Borders has a Service Level Agreement (SLA) in place to treat patients from an English Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) / Integrated Care Board (ICB). Please note, the information available (and provided below) relates to the number of patient contacts seen (not referred) in each year.

1. The number of individuals living in other parts of the UK (non-Scottish Boards) who have been seen within NHS Borders for treatment are:

2016-17	2017/18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
278	252	136	199	58	111

Top Five Elective Specialties treated as Day case/Elective Inpatient

Specialty	2016-17	2017/18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
General Surgery	23	17	17		8	6
Gynaecology	30	34	15	28	6	
Haematology	40	21		25	5	6
Medical Oncology	102	101	39	64	27	69
Ophthalmology	24	17	22	19		6
Orthopaedic Surgery		21	16	15		9
Urology					5	

2. The number of individuals living in other parts of the UK (non-Scottish Boards) who have been seen within NHS Borders for consultation are:

2016-17	2017/18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
835	946	1,004	880	698	854

Top Five New outpatient Specialties attended

Specialty	2016-17	2017/18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Dermatology			42			
General Medicine					90	144
Gynaecology	131	113	95	69	35	44
Midwifery	38	39				
Nephrology		156	149	143	94	
OP Obstetrics	113	102	98	55		
Ophthalmology	75			57		30
Orthopaedic Surgery	72	95	108	101	73	87
Acute Medicine					45	110

Please note: The assumption is that NEW referrals for outpatients only are referrals 'made' into NHS Borders and follow up outpatients are patients already within the system. We have assumed that all outpatients unless AHP or pre-op assessment are consultant led, this of course may not be the case, but we are unable to breakdown the information any further.

The electronic records are held from 2016/17, therefore, the information for 2015/16 is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

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 **690-22** 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.