

Freedom of Information request 721-22

Request

Please can you tell me:

1. the number of patients who have been in contact with your mental health services who are suspected of, or who have committed, a homicide for each of the last three calendar years;
2. the number of patient homicides the Health Board has reported to the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide (NCISH) at the University of Manchester for each of the last three calendar years;
3. the number of Serious Adverse Event Reviews either completed or in progress following a patient homicide, for each of the last three calendar years;

For clarity I understand –

- ‘patients’ to be both inpatients and patients in the community
- ‘in contact’ means in the 12 months before the Incident occurred (the NCISH definition)
- ‘committed a homicide’ means found guilty of murder, manslaughter (culpable homicide) or infanticide in criminal proceedings
- ‘suspected of’ means either those who:
 - have been found not guilty by reason of insanity,
 - are still to come to court,
 - who have not been convicted – because they have subsequently died or are too unwell to come to court.
- ‘last three calendar years’ are 2019, 2020, and 2021.

Response

1. No patients who have been in contact with NHS Borders Mental Health Services are suspected of, or have committed, a homicide in the last 3 calendar years.
2. No patient homicides have been reported to the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide in the last 3 calendar years.
3. No SAERS have been completed or are in progress following a patient homicide in the last 3 calendar years.

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 **721-22** 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.