

## Freedom of Information request 11-23

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### Request

I'm submitting this Freedom of Information request to obtain figures on the number of deaths from hospital-acquired infections in all of the hospitals at your health board.

I'm requesting this data for the period January 2022 to January 2023 (inclusive), and broken down by the following categories:

Per month, during the above-listed period, what is the total number of deaths from hospital acquired infections in your health board?

What is the number of deaths from hospital acquired infections per hospital in your health board, for each month in that time?

What is the breakdown each month of most deaths to least deaths, per hospital?

I would like this data returned to me in table format.

### Response

NHS Borders does not routinely collect outcome data on deaths in relation to healthcare associated infections. Therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Under Section 15 Duty to provide advice and assistance please note National Records of Scotland (NRS) publish death data relating to MRSA and C.diff in hospitals which may be of interest. However, this data does not clarify if infections were healthcare associated or acquired in the community:-

[Clostridium Difficile \(C.diff\) Deaths | National Records of Scotland \(nrsotland.gov.uk\)](https://nrs.scot.nhs.uk/nrs/record/clostridium-difficile)

[MRSA Deaths | National Records of Scotland \(nrsotland.gov.uk\)](https://nrs.scot.nhs.uk/nrs/record/mrsa)

Please note, the data for 2022 has not yet been published on the NRS website.

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 **11-23** 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.