

Freedom of Information request 39-23

Request

1. What is the latest time, in gestational weeks, that you can carry out an abortion in this health board? i.e. until 18 weeks, etc.

I would also like to know the following, for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022, broken down by year:

2. How many referrals did you give for patients to have abortions south of the border in NHS England hospitals? If possible, please provide a breakdown of the type of abortion -- medical or surgical -- sought by the patient, as well as a breakdown of what week of gestation the patient was in.
3. Of the patients referred to services in England, how many had the cost of their treatment paid for by NHS Scotland?
4. For each year, please provide the age of the youngest patient referred to abortion services in England.

Response

1. The latest time an abortion will be carried out in NHS Borders is 19+6/40 weeks gestation.
2. There have been no NHS Borders patients referred to into NHS England hospitals for an abortion during 2020, 2021 or 2022.(This assumes into NHS hospitals as per question and not Private Providers).
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.

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 **39-23** 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.