

Freedom of Information request 52-23

Request

This health board recently claimed it was pausing non-urgent elective procedures.
[NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde pauses non-urgent operations - BBC News](#)

I would like to ask:

1. How many operations will be affected by this pause? Please break this down by operation type.
2. Of all the operations paused, what is the longest period of time someone had been waiting (in days)? i.e they may have been waiting 9 months for the procedure before it was paused. Please break this down by procedure.

Response

1. NHS Borders were affected by a pause in non-urgent elective procedures between the dates of 6 January 2023 and 27 January 2023. There were 39 patients affected; of these patients, 22 were inpatients and 17 were day cases.
2. The longest time (in days) that the above patients waited:

Surgical Specialty	Longest Wait (days)
Orthopaedic	862
General surgery	831
ENT	230
Urology	1147
Gynaecology	858

Please note that as NHS Borders is such a small Board the number of affected operations is very small, and to provide further details of operation types could allow individuals to be identified and we would be in breach of the Data Protection Act 2018. We are therefore withholding all other data under Section 38(2)(ii) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This is also in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics any number that is less than five, actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the [ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol](#).

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 **52-23** 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.