

## Freedom of Information request 85-23

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### Request

1. The average waiting time in NHS Borders for neurology patients for an appointment with a:
  - a. Consultant neurologist
  - b. MS Nurse
  - c. Physiotherapist
  - d. Occupational Therapist
  - e. Psychologist
  - f. Neuropsychologist
- 2 (a). The number of vacancies in NHS Borders in the following positions:
  - a. Consultant neurologist
  - b. MS Nurse
  - c. Physiotherapist
  - d. Occupational Therapist
  - e. Psychologist
  - f. Neuropsychologist
2. (b) How many of these posts have been vacant for six months or longer?
3. (a) Does NHS Borders provide a specialist service for ms and/or neurology patients in
  - a. Physiotherapy
  - b. Psychology
  - c. Occupational Therapy
3. (b) what is the waiting time for an appointment with these services?

### Response

1. The average waiting times in NHS Borders for Neurology patients for an appointment are:

a. Consultant neurologist	45 weeks (for a new Consultant Out-Patient appointment)
b. MS Nurse	Held data does not categorise different types of care provider in terms of Nursing – therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
c. Physiotherapist	3 weeks
d. Occupational Therapist	22 weeks
e. Psychologist	No dedicated service for Neurology patients
f. Neuropsychologist	No dedicated service for Neurology patients
2. The number of vacancies in NHS Borders in the following positions (including if the post has been vacant for 6 months or longer) are:

- a. Consultant neurologist 0
- b. MS Nurse 0
- c. Physiotherapist 0 for Neurology – however there are 9 registered physiotherapy and 3 non-registered physiotherapy vacancies within the Physiotherapy Service
- d. Occupational Therapist 1 x rotational Band 5 – vacant for 6 months or longer
- e. Psychologist N/A – no dedicated service for Neurology patients
- f. Neuropsychologist N/A – no dedicated service for Neurology patients

3. (a) NHS Borders provide a specialist service for MS and/or Neurology patients in:

- a. Physiotherapy Yes
- b. Psychology No
- c. Occupational Therapy No

3. (b) The waiting time for an appointment with these services is:

- a. Physiotherapy 22 weeks
- b. Psychology N/A
- c. Occupational Therapy N/A

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 **85-23** 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.