

Freedom of Information request 112-23

Request

1. The number of chemotherapy sessions that have been cancelled (or postponed) due to staff shortages or the absence of the appropriate staff. Please provide a breakdown of the data in the last five financial years.
2. The number of radiotherapy sessions that have been cancelled (or postponed) due to staff shortages or the absence of the appropriate staff. Please provide a breakdown of the data in the last five financial years.

If, and only if, you're unable to distinguish between radiotherapy and chemotherapy then just supply the number of cancer treatment/therapy sessions.

3. The number of cancer patient scan appointments that have been cancelled (or postponed) due to staff shortages or the absence of the appropriate staff. Please provide a breakdown of the data in the last five financial years.

By scan appointments I mean when a patient is scheduled to have a scan to assess the cancer or effectiveness of treatment.

Response

1. There have been no Chemotherapy sessions that have been cancelled (or postponed) due to staff shortages or the absence of the appropriate staff in the last five financial years by NHS Borders.
2. NHS Borders does not provide Radiotherapy.
3. This information is not held electronically. The data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

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 **112-23** 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.