

Freedom of Information request 223-23

Request

I am for information regarding the number of patients who have been classed as a failed discharge. I'm not sure if your Health Board uses this definition?

In short, I want to know if patients have been discharged and then subsequently readmitted in a short period of time. As such, can I request the following:

1. A breakdown of the number of patients who were classified as a failed discharge in 2022 and 2023 (most recent) [if this term is used] OR the number of patients who were discharged and then readmitted after 1 to 7 days with a breakdown for the same period.
2. The hospital and ward in which they were discharged and then admitted to.
3. The length of stay when readmitted.

Response

1. The number of patients who were readmitted within 7 days is:

2022	Jan - Feb 2023
949	216

2. The breakdown of the Borders General Hospital ward they were discharged from and subsequently admitted to is attached:



FOI 223-23 Response
Q2.xlsx

3. The combined days for the length of stay after readmission for each of the specialties are:

Readmission Specialty	2022	Jan Feb 2023
Cardiology	81	16
Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT)	0	0
Endocrinology & Diabetes	4	0
Gastroenterology	70	11
General Medicine	1456	161
General Surgery (excl Vascular, Maxillofacial)	450	70
Geriatric Medicine	2884	126
Gynaecology	20	12

Haematology	126	6
Paediatrics	113	22
Palliative Medicine	249	31
Respiratory Medicine	10	5
Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery	462	18
Urology	35	4
Total	5960	482

As the number of events in some areas are very small and 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 **223-23** 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.