

Freedom of Information request 302-23

Request

1. Since 1 January 2019 how many alleged sexual assaults have been recorded in hospitals within this NHS health Board. Of those:
 - How many took place in single-sex ward/accommodation for women?
 - How many were reported to Police Scotland?
2. Since 1 January 2019 how many alleged rapes have been recorded in hospitals within this NHS health Board. Of those:
 - How many took place in single-sex ward/accommodation for women?
 - How many were reported to Police Scotland?

Response

1. NHS Borders does not have a category for sexual assault, therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. However, under Section 15, Duty to Provide Advice and Assistance, staff report under “Improper Behaviour – Physical contact – Sexual” and there were 41 of these reports within NHS Borders hospitals between 1 January 2019 and 2 May 2023.
 - None of these were reported as taking place in single-sex ward/accommodation for women.
 - None of these are noted as being reported to the police.
2. There have been no reports of alleged rape recorded in hospitals within NHS Borders since 1 January 2019.

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 **302-23** 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.

