

Freedom of Information request 306-23

Request

How many patients have been assaulted at hospitals run by the health board in each of the last two full calendar years and so far this year? Please break the figures down for each year to give an indication of the nature of assaults (physical, verbal, sexual) and also how many of any sexual assaults were reported rapes. If possible, please also break the figures down to show what hospitals the alleged offences took place at.

Response

NHS Borders has provided information by calendar year, by hospital site and where the category of person has been reported to include "Patient", "Out-Patient" or "In-patient". This data will also include other categories of persons that the reporter has selected eg; staff, other.

NHS Borders does not capture patient only events it captures all categories of persons affected in each event. This data includes all assaults by the categories listed that have been reported in this time frame.

Type of Adverse Event	Year	BGH, Melrose	East Brig, Galashiels	Hawick	Haylodge, Peebles	Kelso	The Knoll, Duns
Alcohol related aggression and violence	2021	6	<5				
	2022				<5		
	2023	<5					
Physical Contact - Sexual	2021	<5	<5			<5	10
	2022	5		<5		<5	
	2023	11					
Patient-patient aggression	2021	59	5		<5		<5
	2022	28	<5		<5		<5
	2023	15	<5		<5	<5	
Personal safety vulnerable	2021	20	<5	<5		<5	<5
	2022	27	<5	<5	<5	20	<5
	2023	<5					
Physical Aggression	2021	367	12	15	15	<5	8
	2022	136	<5	<5	19	<5	9
	2023	12	8		<5		<5
Verbal Aggression	2021	47	6	<5	111	27	<5
	2022	37	6	<5	10	9	<5
	2023	<5			<5		

Please note there were no reported rapes in NHS Borders.

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 **306-23** 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.