

Freedom of Information request 307-23

Request

I am looking for information regarding Working Groups that have been established by your health board.

As such, can I request the following:

1. The total number of working groups in your health board at present, April 2023?
2. How many working groups have been established by your health in the last five financial years (2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23) with a breakdown of:
 - a. the name of each working group and its role/objective.
 - b. the total costs incurred in running these bodies, including expenses.

Clarification

Please can you clearly define the term “Working Group”.

Various definitions and descriptions of working groups exist. I think this most accurately describes what I am looking for:

"a committee or group appointed for their expertise (they can be made up of both internal staff and external reps) that studies/explores a particular problem or situation and then reports on what it has discovered and gives suggestions."

Response

Please find attached an organisational map of NHS Borders groups and committees that was created as part of a one-off project. This map sets out our management groups who have the overall responsibility to deliver an effective, safe and efficient health service; we do not hold any other information in a way that would allow us to respond to the request, therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 we cannot provide:



2023 NHS Borders
Board Map.pdf

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 **307-23** 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.