

## Freedom of Information request 328-23

---

### Request

1. What are the average and longest waiting times for women whose mammogram has identified irregularities to receive a follow-up appointment? Please provide a breakdown of statistics per month over the last five years.
2. How many appointments which were cancelled while the breast screening programme was paused because of the Covid pandemic are still to be rearranged? Please provide a number and a percentage compared to the number of eligible women.
3. How many breast screening appointments have been cancelled or rescheduled due to a lack of availability of staff? How many of these were specifically due to staff sickness? Please provide a breakdown of statistics per month over the last five years.

### Response

Breast Screening throughout Scotland is a commissioned National Services Scotland (NSS)/Information Services Division (ISD) service. For women who are eligible to participate in the programme and are resident in Borders, this service is delivered by the commissioned SE Scotland Breast Screening Programme which is hosted in Lothian and such requests for the breast screening information should be made to NHS Lothian and/or NSS/ISD. In addition, much data related to screening services is within the public domain at the following ISD publications link <https://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Cancer/Breast-Screening/>. Therefore, under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

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](mailto: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 **328-23** 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.