

## Freedom of Information request 397-23

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### Request

Under the terms of the Freedom of Information act can you provide me with the following information:-

1. The number of patients who are being treated for the misuse of alcohol in your health board area.
2. The number of patients who are being treated for the misuse of drugs in your health board area.
3. The number of patients who are being treated for the misuse of alcohol or drugs and who have been identified by health and care staff as someone who would benefit from being admitted to a drug or alcohol rehabilitation bed/residential facility?
4. The number of patients who have been identified as above and who have actually been admitted to a drug or alcohol rehabilitation bed/residential facility?
5. The number of patients who have been admitted for inpatient drug or alcohol treatments having been identified as in need of this as community detox is inappropriate.

### Clarification

**For each question, what date or date range would you like the information (if held) for?**

**Each of the last three years**

### Response

1. and 2. NHS Borders does not electronically record patients being treated for the misuse of drugs and / or alcohol separately, the data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

The number of patients treated for the misuse of drugs and / or alcohol is:

2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
175	131	161

There were 110 patients receiving treatment from the NHS Borders Addiction Service as at 31 March 2023.

3. At the end of Financial Year 2022/23, 31st March 2023 there were 5 patients within the NHS Borders Addiction Service who had been assessed as requiring admission to a rehabilitation facility and were waiting for an entry date.

4. The number of patients open to NHS Borders Addiction Service who have been admitted for inpatient detox or to residential rehabilitation is:

2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
12	18	21

5. This information is not held electronically. The data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

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 **397-23** 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.