

Freedom of Information request 404-23

Request

1. How many (if any) patients were discharged in error from hospitals in this health board in each year since 2018. Please provide data for 2023 to date. This would include any occasion in which a hospital accidentally discharged a patient who was not meant to be discharged.
2. How many of these patients were not readmitted to hospital within 7 days? Please provide this for each year between 2018 and 2023.

Response

1. There is no specific category on the NHS Borders electronic system to record when a patient is discharged from hospital in error, therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This potentially could fall under the categories of 'discharge problem' or 'other event', however, to collate this information would require a manual trawl of 937 records currently recorded under these event subcategories. The Board calculates that the work required to provide the information would exceed the amount prescribed for responding to requests made under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Under Section 12(1) Excessive cost of compliance, of the Act, we are not obliged to provide you with the information.
2. This information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

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 **404-23** 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.