

Freedom of Information request 562-23

Request

1. Please confirm the number of patients in NHS Borders waiting for an echocardiogram (heart ultrasound) as at 31 March 2023.
2. Of those waiting, please confirm the percentage waiting over (a) 6 weeks (b) 12 weeks (c) 18 weeks (d) 24 weeks (e) 36 weeks (f) 52 weeks.
3. Please also confirm how many were waiting for an echocardiogram as at 31 March 2019, 31 March 2020, 31 March 2021 and 31 March 2022.
4. As at each of the four dates please confirm the percentage waiting over (a) 6 weeks (b) 12 weeks (c) 18 weeks (d) 24 weeks (e) 36 weeks (f) 52 weeks.

Response

1. As at 31 March 2023 there were 858 patients in NHS Borders waiting for an echocardiogram (heart ultrasound).
2. The percentage of those waiting over (a) 6 weeks (b) 12 weeks (c) 18 weeks (d) 24 weeks (e) 36 weeks (f) 52 weeks as at 31 March 2023 was:

Weeks	%age of total
6	76.8%
12	64.0%
18	52.1%
24	42.2%
36	27.2%
52	15.0%

3. The number of patients in NHS Borders waiting for an echocardiogram (heart ultrasound) was:

31.03.19	Not Held*
31.03.20	632
31.03.21	600
31.03.22	812

4. The percentage of those waiting over (a) 6 weeks (b) 12 weeks (c) 18 weeks (d) 24 weeks (e) 36 weeks (f) 52 weeks was:

Weeks	31.03.19	31.03.20	31.03.21	31.03.22
6	Not Held*	72.8%	82.3%	85.5%
12		40.7%	71.5%	78.2%
18		21.0%	65.3%	70.8%
24		5.2%	56.3%	66.6%
36		0.8%	41.5%	54.1%
52		0.3%	17.3%	37.4%

Note: Not Held* = Due to a change in recording system, 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 **562-23** 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.