

Freedom of Information request 579-23

Request

In 2022/23 and 2023/24 so far.

1. What were the costs associated with delayed discharge in this health board?
2. What is the cost per day of delayed discharge in this health board?
3. What is the cost per bed of delayed discharge in this health board?
4. How many days have been lost due to delayed discharge?

Response

1. - 3. This information is not held by NHS Borders, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

However, under Section 15 Duty to Provide Advice and Assistance, there is no generally accepted 'standard' cost for a delayed discharge. Costs are typically estimated using data published within the Scottish Health Service Cost Book. NHS inpatient bed costs are costed at specialty average cost per case covering the average length of hospital stay, inclusive of all treatment costs incurred prior to any delay to discharge. It is generally accepted that the cost of a delayed discharge will therefore be lower than the 'standard' inpatient cost per bed day when averaged across the overall number of bed days.

National Cost information can be found at the links below:

Latest Cost Book: Year 2019/20

<https://beta.isdscotland.org/topics/finance/file-listings-fy-2019-to-2020/>

Cost Book: Year 2018/19:

<https://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Finance/Costs/File-Listings-2019.asp>

Costs Archive: Years 2009/10 to 2017/18:

<https://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Finance/Costs/costs-archive.asp>

Please note: There was no full cost book produced for the years 2020-21 or 2021-22 due to the Covid pandemic.

4. The number of delayed discharge days in NHS Borders is:

- 2022/23 21,278
- 2023/24 (to July 2023) 8,255

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 **579-23** 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.