

Freedom of Information request 617-23

Request

I would like to ask, in 2022/23 and 2023/24 so far:

1. How many assaults have been recorded against NHS staff. Please break this down by year, but also by assault type. E.g. physical, sexual, firearm, hate crime etc.

Response

1. The number of assaults recorded against NHS Staff is:

Type of Assault	2022-2023	April 2023 to 31 July 2023
Alcohol related aggression and violence	6	6
Injured during restraint techniques	6	<5
Personal safety vulnerable	29	9
Physical Aggression by other	5	<5
Physical Aggression by patient	282	114
Racial behaviour	<5	<5
Sexual	24	0
Unplanned restraint due to aggression	15	5
Use of weapon	<5	0
Verbal Aggression by other	44	11
Verbal aggression by patient	185	30
Total	598	181

As the number of events in some areas are very small and in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics any number that is less than five, actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the [ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol](#).

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 **617-23** 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.