

11 September 2023

Freedom of Information request 627-23

Request

- How many referrals were made by General Practitioners to outpatient services within your health board in financial year 2022/23, broken down by:
 - classification of referral (e.g. whether the referral was routine, urgent or very urgent i.e. risk of cancer) and
 - hospital.
- Please also provide this information for the four financial years prior.

If your board classifies GP referrals in a way that is different to my characterisation under 1a), please provide that breakdown as an alternative.

Response

Please find below data as per request:

Borders General Hospital	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Total
Routine	17,375	15,926	8,959	12,051	12,578	66,889
Urgent	4,302	4,061	3,394	4,319	4,703	20,779
Urgent - Suspected Cancer	1,978	2,184	2,097	2,929	3,216	12,404
Urgent - War Pensioner	23	19	7	17	18	84
Total	23,678	22,190	14,457	19,316	20,515	

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 **627-23** 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.