

29 September 2023

## Freedom of Information request 664-23

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### Request

Please could I have the following information:

1. As of 1 September 2023, how long (in weeks) is the average waiting time from the point an initial referral is made to an adult psychiatry team, until a first appointment or assessment with the patient? Please also provide this information for 1 September 2022, 2021, 2020 and 2019.
2. In financial year 2022 - 23, what was the longest wait (in weeks) that a patient waited following an initial referral to an adult psychiatry team until their first appointment or assessment?

### Response

1. The average wait in weeks for referrals who have not had a first appointment as at the dates requested is:

Date	Average wait (weeks)
01/09/2019	11
01/09/2020	13
01/09/2021	10
01/09/2022	13
01/09/2023	10

2. In the financial year 2022-23, the longest wait recorded from the date of referral to the first appointment/assessment date was 155 weeks.

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](mailto: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 **664-23** 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.