

29 September 2023

Freedom of Information request 666-23

Request

To whom it may concern, please can you treat this as an inquiry under the Freedom of Information Act. Please can you tell me the following:

1. In each of the last three financial years (2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23) how many members of the health board's staff have contacted the occupational health department to raise concerns over their return to offices (or other such spaces, i.e. not their homes) to work as opposed to working from home? How many of these cases in each year involved concerns over Covid19?
2. How many staff in each of these years was subsequently allowed to work from home instead of returning to the office? If possible, please break the figures down to show the roles/job titles that these staff had.
3. In each of the last three financial years (2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23) how many members of staff have contacted the health board's HR department to raise issues over their return to offices (or other such spaces, i.e. not their homes) to work as opposed to working from home? How many of these cases in each year involved concerns over Covid19?
4. How many staff in each of these years was subsequently allowed to work from home instead of returning to the office? If possible, please break the figures down to show the roles/job titles that these staff had.

Response

Questions 1. To 4.

This information is not held electronically. The data may be held in the staff member's personnel record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all personnel records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

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 **666-23** 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.