

5 October 2023

Freedom of Information request 677-23

Request

1. In this health board, of those patients who were discharged from hospital - but whose discharge had been delayed during the month ending 31 July 2023 - what was the average length of the delay in days? Please also provide the data for each of the preceding 12 months.
2. In this health board, of those patients who were discharged from hospital - but whose discharge had been delayed during the month ending 31 July 2023 - what was the length of the longest delay in days? Please also provide the data for each of the preceding 12 months.
3. In this health board, of those patients currently in hospital who are medically fit for discharge but who are nevertheless delayed, what is the average length of delay in days?
4. In this health board, of those patients currently in hospital who are medically fit for discharge but who are nevertheless delayed, what is the longest delay in days?

Response

1. The average length of delay in days is:

Discharge Month/Year	Days
Jul-22	26
Aug-22	24
Sep-22	26
Oct-22	38
Nov-22	36
Dec-22	43
Jan-23	26
Feb-23	37
Mar-23	35
Apr-23	37
May-23	48
Jun-23	43
Jul-23	35

2. The length of the longest delay in days is:

Discharge Month/Year	Days
Jul-22	139
Aug-22	113
Sep-22	162
Oct-22	181
Nov-22	258
Dec-22	146
Jan-23	154
Feb-23	328
Mar-23	232
Apr-23	219
May-23	459
Jun-23	626
Jul-23	291

Please note – this includes adults with incapacity, going through the guardianship process.

3. In NHS Borders, of those patients currently in hospital who are medically fit for discharge but who are nevertheless delayed, the average length of delay is 57 days (at 10 September 2023).
4. In NHS Borders, of those patients currently in hospital who are medically fit for discharge but who are nevertheless delayed, the longest delay is 241 days (at 10 September 2023).

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 **677-23** 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.