

Freedom of Information request 364-23

Request

1. How many WTE Dentists are employed in General Dental Services in this health board? (As far as I can see only headcount is publicly available). Please provide this for 2023/24, but also each financial year since 2018/19.
2. How many dental practices are there in this health board? Please provide this for 2023/24, but also each financial year since 2018/19.
3. In relation to question 2, how many of these dental practices carry out procedures which are paid for by the NHS? Please exclude procedures for under 26s, as dental charges have been abolished for this group. Please provide this for 2023/24, but also each financial year since 2018/19.

Response

1. All General Dental Services (GDS) in the Scottish Borders are independent contractors and not managed by NHS Borders. This information can be accessed by contacting the GDS practices directly, therefore please note under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

Under Section 15 of the FOI(S)A information on all Dentists within the Borders area is available at: [Local services directory \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://www.scot.nhs.uk/local-services-directory)

2. The number of dental practices in NHS Borders is:

2018/19	14
2019/20	15
2020/21	15
2021/22	17
2022/23	19
2023/24	19

3. The number of these dental practices that carry out procedures which are paid for by the NHS is:

2018/19	14
2019/20	15
2020/21	15
2021/22	17
2022/23	17
2023/24	17

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 **364-23** 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.