

## Freedom of Information request 118-22

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### Request

1. Would it be possible to get an annual breakdown for each year from 2016 to present of the amount of attendances at A&E due to dental issues/problems with teeth please?
2. Could you stipulate how many of the attendances for each year were under 18s?
3. Can you also provide monthly breakdowns of the same data for 2020, 2021 and 2022 so far please?

### Response

- 1 & 2. Please see the table below for the number of attendances at Borders General Hospital A&E Department due to dental issues from 2016 to 2022:

Year	Total	Aged under 18
2016	125	12
2017	93	10
2018	125	13
2019	120	14
2020	71	5
2021	65	6
2022	14	<5

3. Please see the table below for the monthly breakdown of attendances at Borders General Hospital A&E Department due to dental issues for 2020, 2021 and 2022:

Month	Total	Aged under 18
Jan-20	6	0
Feb-20	6	0
Mar-20	9	0
Apr-20	5	<5
May-20	5	<5
Jun-20	<5	0
Jul-20	<5	0
Aug-20	8	0
Sep-20	8	<5
Oct-20	<5	0
Nov-20	6	<5
Dec-20	7	0
Jan-21	<5	0
Feb-21	<5	0
Mar-21	7	<5
Apr-21	6	<5
May-21	6	0
Jun-21	8	0
Jul-21	6	<5
Aug-21	6	0
Sep-21	5	<5
Oct-21	6	0
Nov-21	5	0
Dec-21	5	<5
Jan-22	8	<5
Feb-22	6	0

Please note that as NHS Borders is a small Board and the number in some areas are also very small, to provide further details could allow individuals to be identified and we would be in breach of the Data Protection Act 2018. We are therefore withholding all other data under Section 38(1) (b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This is in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics which states that any number that is less than five; actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol.

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 **118-22** 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.