

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Date received	23/08/2022	Subject	A & E Waiting Times		
Passed to	Acute Services Information Services	Date passed	24/08/2022	Respond by	13/09/2022
Category	Scottish Parliament	FOI number	2022-345		

Question/s to be answered

1. In this health board, what is the intended capacity* of the Accident and Emergency department(s)?

Capacity for approximately 15 patients.

2. In this health board, how many times has the intended capacity of the Accident and Emergency department(s) been exceeded so far in the 2022 calendar year? Please outline the date(s) on which this occurred. Please also provide the data for the 2021, 2020 and 2019 calendar years.

In accordance with FOISA s 17(1), NHS Shetland confirms that it does not hold the information requested. We do not hold historic time series snapshots of occupancy of our A&E department.

3. In this health board, where the intended capacity of the Accident and Emergency department(s) has been exceeded so far in the 2022 calendar year, please outline by how much the intended capacity was exceeded, and on what date(s) this occurred. For example, if the intended capacity of the department was 40 patients, but the department supported 120 patients at a given point on the 20th July, the intended capacity would have been exceeded by 80 patients on that date. Please express your answer in numerical terms, as above. If on one day intended capacity was exceeded for an extended period of time, please respond by outlining the moment where intended capacity was exceeded by the greatest number of patients. Please also provide the data for the 2021, 2020 and 2019 calendar years.

In accordance with FOISA s 17(1), NHS Shetland confirms that it does not hold the information requested. We do not hold historic time series snapshots of occupancy of our A&E department.

4. In this health board, where the intended capacity of the Accident and Emergency department(s) has been exceeded so far in the 2022 calendar year, please explain how patients were managed, for example, were they placed on trolleys or on the floor in hospital corridors? Please also provide the data, broken down by month, for the 2021, 2020 and 2019 calendar years.

No patients ever waited on trolleys in corridors and never on the floor.

*For the purposes of clarity, I am defining intended capacity as follows: 'the number of patients the Accident and Emergency department was designed for care for at any one time'. For example, NHS Lothian's director for acute services told the Times on 19 August that the

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intended capacity of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh's emergency department was designed to care for 40 patients at a time.