

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004

Date received	10/11/22	Subject	Boarding Out	
Date passed	10/11/22	Respond by	01/12/22	
Passed to	Acute Services		FOI number	2022-499
Category of information requested	H&SC Delivery - Patient / Clinical Management			

Question/s to be answered

1. The number of patients within all hospitals within your health board area that have been “boarded out”. I would like this data for each calendar year since 2008 (including 2022 as of 30th Oct).

When I refer to boarding out I mean both types

1. Where the patient is not admitted to the appropriate ward at the outset due to shortage of beds/pressures on system

2. Where the patient having been treated in the appropriate ward but is then move to a ward treating different conditions due to shortage of beds/pressures on system.

If possible, please breakdown by “boarding out” type by each calendar year requested. However, if this not possible please indicate whether the data you have provided includes both types of boarding out as I have described. Further, if possible please provide the number of patients that were boarded out that where over the age of 65 broken down by each calendar year requested.

With regards to pre 2015 information, in accordance with FOISA s 17(1), NHS Shetland confirms that it does not hold the information requested. This is because prior to 2015, a different system was used which did not include usage of high dependency nursing and at the time, such patients were dealt with on a one by one basis and this information is no longer available.

Year	Over 65	Under 65	Grand Total
2015	50	23	73
2016	43	25	68
2017	26	11	37
2018	77	24	101
2019	89	60	149
2020	245	162	407
2021	95	75	170
2022	83	56	139
Grand Total	708	436	1144

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Please note that in 2020 our patient management system may falsely have ascribed some HDU patients as boarders because of the way that the configuration of the wards was required to change at short notice during the Covid pandemic.