

Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – MENTAL HEALTH

I write in response to your request for information in relation to mental health services within NHS Lothian.

Question:

- The number of women in your health board who have been referred to mental health services in each of the last five years

Answer:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of Female Patients Referred to MH Services	37,437	35,840	45,327	43,863	48,359

Question:

- The number of women in your health board who have been referred to specifically perinatal mental health services in each of the last five years.

Answer:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of Female Patients Referred to Perinatal Services	213	482	581	654	750

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the

Scottish Information Commissioner's Office online appeals service at [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal). If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

**ALISON MACDONALD**  
**Executive Director, Nursing, Midwifery and AHPs**  
Cc: Chief Executive