

Date: 08/03/2024
Your Ref:
Our Ref: 8368

Enquiries to : Richard Mutch
Extension: 35687
Direct Line: 0131 465 5687
foi@nhsllothian.scot.nhs.uk
richard.mutch@nhsllothian.scot.nhs.uk

Dear

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION – HOUSEBUILDING PROGRAMMES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to housebuilding programmes in West Lothian.

Question:

- Given that NHS Lothian knew of the planned housebuilding programmes across West Lothian, particularly in the community council areas served by East Calder Medical Practice, and the consequential increase in patient numbers – please provide the following information, all since 2010:
 - Copies of all planning objections submitted to West Lothian Council for proposed housebuilding in the communities of Wilkieston, Calderwood, Kirknewton, East Calder and Mid Calder and that are within the boundaries of the respective community councils for each of these communities.
 - Copies of all correspondence with West Lothian Council, or developers, seeking a voluntary Section 75 developer contribution to NHS Lothian health infrastructure (e.g. East Calder Health Centre).
 - Copies of all correspondence from the Scottish Government and guidance to, as the Scottish Government has stated, “improve NHS Area Board engagement in local authority development planning processes, including improving the evidence Health Boards provide on the impact of housing development on GP practices to support local authorities in making decisions about developer contributions.”

Answer:

I am advised by the Public Health and Health Policy Department of NHS Lothian that this information is no-longer held by NHS Lothian as the staff members involved left the organisation many years ago. As no objects were submitted by NHS Lothian we did not have to retain information.

As per Regulation 10(4)(a) of the EIRs formally I must advise that NHS Lothian do not hold the information requested.

I am sorry I cannot help further 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. 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