

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – TOOTH DECAY

I write in response to your request for information in relation to tooth decay admissions within NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. How many people in your health boards jurisdiction have been diagnosed with tooth decay issues in each year since 2018?
2. How many people in your health boards jurisdiction (aged 18 and under) have been diagnosed with tooth decay issues in each year since 2018?

Answer:

We can only provide the numbers of patients with tooth decay for inpatients, and the numbers for each year and age group are contained below.

Year	All Ages	Under 18s
2018	1,448	1,123
2019	1,458	1,070
2020	647	477
2021	740	602
2022	1,054	856
2023	1,016	763

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. 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