

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – GP REFERRALS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to GP referrals within NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. Please confirm how many referrals were made in NHS Lothian from General Practice to secondary care services in the calendar years 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020 and 2019;
2. Of the referrals made during each of the above years, please confirm how many referrals were accepted by secondary care services
3. Of the referrals made during each of the above years, please confirm how many referrals were rejected by secondary care services.

Answer:

Year Referred	Accepted	Rejected	Total
2019	293,874	28,633	322,507
2020	219,603	28,025	247,628
2021	289,749	31,449	321,198
2022	306,835	34,383	341,218
2023	322,196	44,921	367,117

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