

Dear

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – ASSISTED DYING ORGANISATIONS**

I write in response to your request for information in relation to contact with assisted dying organisations in NHS Lothian.

### Question:

Please provide any and all information supplied by the below groups to NHS Lothian including any plus all information supplied to the below groups by NHS Lothian.

Dignity in dying.

Dignitas.

Exit UK.

Friends at the end.

Any other pro euthanasia or assisted dying organisation or advocate.

In text, audio, visual or any other data format Between 1/1/2022 - 1/1/2023 to or present within the trust.

Please also disclose any financial deposits, property gifts, donations or profitable exchanges between NHS Lothian and the mentioned groups within the same period if such has occurred and is on record.

### Answer:

No payments have been made from NHS Lothian to the groups specified above, and no information has been shared between these groups and NHS Lothian.

The NHS Lothian Charity is a trust which is not bound by the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act so they have not provided information about any information sharing or payments. They make a statement on their website about information sharing here [https://nhsllothiancharity.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Freedom\\_of\\_Information\\_Statement-December-2022\\_FINAL.pdf](https://nhsllothiancharity.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Freedom_of_Information_Statement-December-2022_FINAL.pdf). They are also required to disclose donations over £50,000 in their annual accounts, which can be found on their website here: <https://nhsllothiancharity.org/about-us/annual-report/>.

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 reviewer at the address at the top 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>

Yours sincerely

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