

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – PATIENT PORTALS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to patient portals in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. For each of the past five years, how much has the health board spent on developing patient portals?

Answer:

Nothing has been spent on development of patient portals in NHS Lothian.

Question:

2. For each of the past five years how many people has the health board employed in e-health/ Digital Health/ IT and what has the annual wage bill been?

Answer:

The table below details the information you have requested for the Digital Team not including telecoms or health records staff.

NHS Lothian Digital Team		
Year	Whole time equivalent staff	Total pay
2018/19	244.08	£9,351,000
2019/20	248.72	£10,429,000
2020/21	269.10	£11,346,000
2021/22	301.29	£13,420,000
2022/23	322.32	£15,435,000

Question:

3. For each of the past five years, what measurable cost savings have been identified through developing patient centred digital solutions?

Answer:

No measurable cost savings have been identified.



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 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.nhsllothian.scot/FOI>

Yours sincerely

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