

Date: 20/05/2024  
Your Ref:  
Our Ref: 8719

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Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – NURSING AND MIDWIFERY VACANCIES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to nursing and midwifery vacancies.

Question:

1. The number of nursing and midwifery vacancies in the health board, as of 1 April 2024 (or most recent), including (i) posts that are temporarily filled by agency and bank staff, (ii) posts that have not yet been advertised, and (iii) posts that have remained vacant for so long they are no longer being advertised.

For the above question, please can I also have this broken down by nursing and midwifery role (e.g. Mental health nurse, Learning disability nurse, Adult nurse, Children's nurse, Nursing assistant, Clinical support worker).

Answer:

I am advised that this information is publicly available via the following link:-  
[NHS Scotland workforce | Turas Data Intelligence](#)

This information is exempt under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information otherwise accessible

- (1) Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under section 1(1) is exempt information.

Question:

2. As of 1 April 2024 (or most recent), what is the longest time (in days) that a nursing and midwifery vacancy has remained unfilled, broken down by role?

Answer:

Generic Recruitment are responsible for processing all generic nursing posts from bands 2-5 and an assortment of Band 6 District Nursing posts.

Manpower's for vacancies are received and successful candidates are matched against their skills

We recruit approx. 2000 nursing posts per annum and manpower turnover can be high

From the 14<sup>th</sup> May our longest wait for each role is:

Band 2: 2 days

Band 3: June 2023 DN Edinburgh post part time. Difficult to fill as they need to be able to drive.

Band 4: Not applicable as all posts filled.

Band 5: January 2023 Ferry Field House, difficult to fill area.

Band 6 District Nurse: F/T from Feb 2024, part time one from 2022

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 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