

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – GYNAECOLOGY WAITING TIMES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to gynaecology waiting times in NHS Lothian.

Question:

For each financial year from 2018/19 to 2023/24 (most recent):

1. The total number of referrals for a gynaecology appointment.
2. The median wait (in days) for a gynaecology appointment.
3. The longest completed waited (in days) for a gynaecology appointment.

Answer:

The information you have requested is detailed in the tables below for appointments for national specialty gynaecology, general gynaecology new patients and general gynaecology urgent new patients. The 95th percentile wait is given as an alternative to the longest completed wait – it refers to the number of days by which 95 per cent of patients had been seen.

National specialty gynaecology waiting times, NHS Lothian				
Financial Year	Additions to waiting list	Completed Waits	Median Wait (days)	95th Percentile Wait (days)
2018-19	22,345	18,591	34	102
2019-20	22,898	18,756	33	123
2020-21	20,781	16,996	25	265
2021-22	26,232	20,715	28	324
2022-23	27,353	22,533	27	370
2023-24	28,645	21,630	25	397

General gynaecology new patient waiting times, NHS Lothian				
Financial Year	Additions to waiting list	Completed Waits	Median Wait (days)	95th Percentile Wait (days)
2018-19	5,079	4,105	73	95
2019-20	4,789	3,419	71	112
2020-21	2,192	1,603	227	283
2021-22	2,608	1,146	370	427
2022-23	3,461	2,139	337	417
2023-24	2,774	1,260	345	425

General gynaecology urgent new patient waiting times, NHS Lothian				
Financial Year	Additions to waiting list	Completed Waits	Median Wait (days)	95th Percentile Wait (days)
2018-19	1,063	941	31	52
2019-20	1,205	1,019	30	55
2020-21	1,893	1,595	34	185
2021-22	2,265	2,238	36	137
2022-23	1,874	1,802	37	153
2023-24	1,980	1,781	37	124

Question:

4. The longest ongoing wait (in days) for a gynaecology appointment.

Answer:

Information on current waits for gynaecology appointments are detailed in the table below. The 95th percentile wait is the number of days between being added to the waiting list and the date the data was extracted – 95% of patients have been waiting less than this.

Current gynaecology waits, NHS Lothian		
Service	Number of ongoing waits	Current 95th percentile wait (days)
National specialty gynaecology	11,113	467
General gynaecology new patient	3231	432
General gynaecology urgent new patient	310	80

Question:

5. The number of gynaecology appointments cancelled by the health board.

Answer:

The table below details the number of appointments cancelled by NHS Lothian by service.

Gynaecology appointments cancelled by NHS Lothian			
Financial year	National specialty gynaecology	General gynaecology new patient	General gynaecology urgent new patient
2018-19	753	152	36
2019-20	781	132	35
2020-21	1,827	296	123
2021-22	1,480	169	135
2022-23	1,340	170	121
2023-24	1,058	59	89

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.nhslothian.scot/FOI>

Yours sincerely

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