

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – SEXUAL ASSAULT OR RAPE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Sexual Assault or Rape.

Question:

1. How many reports of sexual assault in an NHS hospital in your health board have been made in the last year?
2. How many reports of sexual assault in an NHS hospital in your health board were made between 2022-23 and also between 2023-24?
3. How many reports of rape in an NHS hospital in your health board have been made in the last year?
4. How many reports of rape in an NHS hospital in your health board were made between 2022-23 and also between 2023-24?
5. In response to (1) – (4) can you outline (i) at which hospitals the reported incidents took place and (ii) how many incidents took place at each hospital?

Answer:

I am advised that we do not have a specific category on DATIX for Sexual Assault or Rape.

Under Contributory Factors Violence and Aggression we have the drop-down of Sexual Abuse, however this is not the same thing and would result in unreliable data.

We carried out a word search in the Situation field for Sexual Assault and Rape. Some of the adverse events are of "Verbal aggression of an explicit or sexual nature, including threats of rape" almost all due to poor mental state, however none are actual Sexual Assault or Rape. Therefore, there is nothing we can provide. As per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 formally I must advise that we do not hold this information.

I would further advise that for this level of detail you should contact Police Scotland who maybe able to help you further.

Headquarters
Waverley Gate
2-4 Waterloo Place
Edinburgh EH1 3EG

Chair Professor John Connaghan CBE
Chief Executive Professor Caroline Hiscox
Lothian NHS Board is the common name of Lothian Health Board

I am sorry I cannot help 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
Cc: Chief Executive