

Date 04/04/2025  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 9811

Enquiries to Richard Mutch  
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Direct Line 0131 465 5687  
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Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – SINGLE-SEX SPACES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to single-sex spaces.

Question:

- What is your health board's policy on access to single-sex spaces and can you please send a copy of that policy to me?

Answer:

Although access is provided to single-sex spaces as required we do not have a policy on this issue, we do however have competent guidance for staff. As per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 formally I must advise that we do not hold this policy.

Question:

- Do female staff have routine access to single-sex spaces and facilities, specifically changing facilities?

Answer:

Yes, female staff are able to access single-sex spaces and facilities, including changing facilities.

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.

Headquarters  
Mainpoint  
102 West Port  
Edinburgh EH3 9DN

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



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