

Date 09/04/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 9842

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
Extension 35687
Direct Line 0131 465 5687
loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot
richard.mutch@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – PATIENT REFERRAL

I write in response to your request for information in relation to patient referral.

Question:

1. In each year since 2019-20, including the current year to date, in this health board, how many patients have been directed or referred to hospitals or other healthcare settings (clinics/primary care centres etc) in another health board?
2. In relation to Q1, what was the furthest transfer in miles?
3. In relation to Q1, is there a cost associated with this?

Answer:

I am advised that the furthest we would refer would be Golden Jubilee National Hospital in Clydebank.

You should contact NHS National Services Scotland for data/cost relating to referrals to the NHS Scotland nationally designated services for specialised healthcare, the details of which are listed here. Some are located in NHS Lothian and some in other NHS Boards in Scotland:
<https://www.nss.nhs.scot/browse/specialist-healthcare/specialist-services>

I am sorry I cannot help further 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

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

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