

Date 09/04/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 9864

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – GIC REFERRALS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to GIC referral

Question:

1. Is there any pause or restriction on patients being referred for surgery currently in effect?

Answer:

There is no pause is currently in place.

Question:

2. Has there been any such pause or restriction in effect since 1 January 2024?

Answer:

See previous response -

<https://org.nhsllothian.scot/foi/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2024/12/9313.pdf>

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:

3. If the answer to 1 or 2 is yes, please provide the start and (if applicable) end date or expected end dates for the pause or restriction.

Answer:

Referrals and assessments for patients aged 25 and over restarted on 17th October and 18th November respectively, while assessments for those aged 18 to 24 recommenced on 4th December 2024 and referrals on 11th December 2024.

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

Question:

4. If the answer to 1 or 2 is yes, please provide all communications, minutes, agendas and policy documents which include mention of the pause or restriction, from a time period of six months before the start of the pause or restriction to the present day.

Answer:

See previous responses -

<https://org.nhsllothian.scot/foi/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2024/11/9275.pdf>

<https://org.nhsllothian.scot/foi/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2024/12/9313.pdf>

<https://org.nhsllothian.scot/foi/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2024/12/9336.pdf>

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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 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.nhsllothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive