

Date 16/04/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 9921

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – COUNSELLING

I write in response to your request for information in relation to counselling.

Question:

- I would be grateful if you could tell me, for the years; -2022/23 -2023/24 -2024/25 -2025/26
 - The amount in total budgeted by the board for the provision of counselling services.
 - How much was spent on counselling services provided directly by the board.
 - How much was spent on the commissioning of counselling services from other organisations.
 - The names of organisations that were commissioned to provide counselling.
 - The number of counselling services opened by the board.
 - The number of counselling services closed by the board.
 - The amount forecast to be spent on counselling in 2026/27 by the board.*After clarification patient only information.*

Answer:

I am advised that counselling sits within the Psychology Service and is not a separate cost. If you would like information specific to Psychology we can provide this. Please note we cannot provide estimates or forecasts.

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.

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

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive