

Date 23/04/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 9942

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – A&E WAITS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to A&E waits and deaths.

Question:

- The number of people who have died after waiting more than four hours in A&E within your health board over the past five years (2019-20 and 2023-24), broken down by year.

Answer:

Financial year	Numbers
2019/20	75
2020/21	63
2021/22	176
2022/23	372
2023/24	275

Question:

- The number of people who have waited more than four hours in A&E within your health board over the past five years (2019-20 and 2023-24), broken down by year.

Answer:

Financial year	Numbers
2019/20	38,745
2020/21	21,934
2021/22	72,688
2022/23	103,510
2023/24	102,328

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:

- If available, the longest recorded waiting time for a patient in A&E for each of the past five years (2019-20 and 2023-24).

Answer:

Due to the specific nature of this information we are not able to provide single longest waits. Since we do not have their consent to release this data from their records, the information is exempt under section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act i.e. to provide it would breach the Data Protection Act (2018).

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