

Date: 09/05/2025
Our Ref: 9910
Enquiries to loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SPEND

I write in response to your request for information in relation to spend on artificial intelligence spend in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. Please provide a list of the suppliers who provide AI services to the trust for clinical use cases with supplier name, annual spend, and a description of what the technology is used for.

Answer:

The information you have requested is detailed in the table below:

AI tools in use in clinical services, NHS Lothian		
Supplier name	Annual spend	Use of technology
Flok Health	Currently a pilot, with a business case being developed.	AI physiotherapy service provided by some GP practices to allow patients to access care while on the waiting list to see a physiotherapist.
Aival	Proof of concept funding is currently being provided by National Innovation Grants.	AI tool which will judge the efficacy of 6 AI tools looking at breast scans and x-rays from three suppliers.

Question:

2. Please provide a list of the suppliers who provide AI services to the trust for clerical/administrative use cases with supplier name, annual spend, and a description of what the technology was used for.

Answer:

The information you have requested is detailed in the table below:

AI tools in use in clerical / administrative services, NHS Lothian		
Supplier name	Annual spend	Use of technology
Microsoft CoPilot	Licences are available for use in NHS Scotland as part of the Microsoft contract.	Currently use is focussed on personal productivity, for example helping with the creation of papers or presentations, summarising documents. There is no system wide use at this time.

Question:

3. Does the trust utilise any AI and/or technology to facilitate patient appointment booking for the trust? If yes please provide details.

Answer:

AI technology is not involved in patient appointment booking in NHS Lothian.

Question:

4. Who is accountable in the Trust for outpatient appointments?

Answer:

The Service Director for Outpatients and Associated Services is Gillian Cunningham.

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 <https://www.foi.scot/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 reviewer at the address at the top 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>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director of Nursing Midwifery and AHPs
Cc: Chief Executive