

Date: 09/05/2025  
Our Ref: 9975  
Enquiries to [loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot](mailto:loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot)

Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – TRANSLATION SERVICES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to translation services in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. Please provide the amount the NHS spent on translation services in the calendar years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 to date.

Answer:

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

Translation services spend, NHS Lothian	
Year	Total costs
2022/23	£1,839,836
2023/24	£2,153,656
2024/25	£2,128,364

Question:

2. Provide a list of the languages that the NHS provided translation services for in the calendar year 2024.

Answer:

The languages translation services were provided for are listed below:

Albanian	French	Kurd-Kurm
Arabic	German	Kurd-Sorm
Bengali	Greek	Latvian
Bosnian	Gujerati	Lithuanian
BSL	Hindi	Mandarin
Bulgarian	Hungarian	Mandinka
Cantonese	Indonesian	Nepalese
Croatian	Italian	Pashto
Czech	Japanese	Polish
Dari	Korean	Portuguese
Farsi	Kurd-Badh	Punjabi

Romanian  
Russian  
Serbian  
Slovak  
Somali

Spanish  
Sylheti  
Tamil  
Thai  
Turkish

Ukrainian  
Urdu  
Vietnamese  
Wolof

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.nhsllothian.scot/FOI>

Yours sincerely

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