

Date 16/05/2025  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 10021

Enquiries to Richard Mutch  
Extension 35687  
Direct Line 0131 465 5687  
[loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot](mailto:loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot)  
[richard.mutch@nhs.scot](mailto:richard.mutch@nhs.scot)

Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION - SELF-HARM OR SUICIDE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to self-harm or suicide.

### Question:

- Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, please provide the number of self-harm or suicide-related presentations at A&E departments within the health board area from 2020 to 2025, broken down by age group and year.

### Answer:

Age Group	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<18	1,134	936	752	714	650	166
18-64	6,265	6,422	6,230	6,803	5,692	1,351
65+ Yrs	345	361	387	442	446	87
Total	9,764	9,740	9,391	9,982	8,812	3,629

### Notes on the data:

- Self-harm or suicide related presentations are derived from various data related to the presentations. This includes any diagnosis added to the record, the Incident type and a key terms search of the clinical notes for the presentation. As such it should be understood that there is some margin of error due to the identification, especially in the use of key terms in searching the clinical notes.
- The figures reported for 2025 are for presentations to A&E till the end of March 2025.

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

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*



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](http://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