

Date 11/06/2025  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 9998

Enquiries to Richard Mutch  
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Dear

## ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION – PEST CONTROL

I write in response to your request for information in relation to pest control.

Question:

1. How much your board has spent on pest control in hospitals in 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 to date?

Answer:

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Total spend within FY	£36,330,10	£14,771.69	£17,118.00

Question:

2. Can you provide a breakdown of how much was spent on each variety of pest, broken down in the same way?

Answer:

This is not a level of detail which is readily available to provide and would involve individually reviewing circa 650 invoices to then manually collate by spend, by pest.

Under the Environmental Information Regulations NHS Lothian is not required to create new records to enable it to respond to your enquiry. This information is not collated or held in aggregate form and it would be necessary to review all finance ledgers relating to pest control over the period you have requested to assemble the information you seek. Even if NHS Lothian did this – and there would be significant cost implications in doing so – it would be unable to respond in full to your request. The information requested is therefore exempt under Regulation 10(4)(b) – Manifestly unreasonable request..

We previously provided a summary of the main insects and animals involved, this is as follows:

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*

Ants
Beetles
Birds (Pigeon, Gull and unknown)
Cockroach
Caterpillars
Flies
Maggots
Mice
Rats
Silverfish
Spiders
Squirrels
Wasps/Bees

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](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