

Date 14/07/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 10239

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – TRANSPLANTS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to transplants and Covid-19.

Question:

- As a Freedom of Information request, Alexander Stewart MBE MSP would like to ask: *How many transplant patients died of COVID between May 2020 and February 2022 in NHS Lothian?*

Answer:

To ensure the protection of patient confidentiality, I am reporting the number of cases as "less than 10." Please see the table below for details of what data has been included.

Date range	Deaths between 01/05/2020 and 28/02/2022
Cohort	Lothian based post-transplant patients (Renal/Liver/Pancreas/Islet), with a cause of death from NRS containing 'Covid-19' or 'SARS-COV2'
Number	10<

NHS Lothian have a policy of not revealing figures where the number is below 10 for sensitive categories such as abortion, teenage pregnancy, gender identity, transplants etc. Because of the small numbers involved I am not able to provide you with the level of detail requested. To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 10 or less has not been shown in the tables enclosed with this response. 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

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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. 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.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive