

Date 08/08/2025  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 10317R

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Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REVIEW - BED NUMBERS

I write in response to your request for review of NHS Lothian's response to your Freedom of Information request for bed numbers.

Having discussed your request and our response of 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025, I can respond as follows:

Original Request and Response:

Question:

- I wish to make a Freedom of Information Request for the number in patient beds the entire organisation had in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 & 2025 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April of each year. With a breakdown of each year.

Answer:

This information is already published by Public Health Scotland. the release covering the quarter to March 2025 is due in August and the annual equivalent in September.

Publication here - <https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/show-all-releases?id=32200> (quarterly) and <https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/show-all-releases?id=20521> (annually)

associated open data is held here - <https://www.opendata.nhs.scot/dataset/annual-hospital-beds-information>

This information is exempt under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information otherwise accessible

(1) Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under section 1(1) is exempt information.

Review Request:

I wish to make a Freedom of Information Request review on the grounds that multiple other health boards have so far been able to provide me with their figures & not a link NHS Lothian have done. Upon the conclusion of the review I will involve statutory bodies if necessary, which is my legal right.

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*

Review Response:

As stated previously the information requested is already publicly available and easily accessible via:-

<https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/show-all-releases?id=32200> (quarterly)  
and <https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/show-all-releases?id=20521> (annually)

associated open data is held here - <https://www.opendata.nhs.scot/dataset/annual-hospital-beds-information>

Under the Act there is no obligation to provide information that is publicly available or generate new information in addition to publicly available information (even if there is a cost in obtaining the information).

As stated previously this information is exempt under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information otherwise accessible.

(1) Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under section 1(1) is exempt information.

If you are not satisfied with this response you still have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner who you can contact at the address below or 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.

Scottish Information Commissioner  
Kinburn Castle  
Doubledykes Road  
St Andrews, Fife  
KY16 9DS  
Telephone: 01334 464610  
Fax: 01334 464611  
e-mail: [enquiries@foi.scot](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot)

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Reviewer/  
NHS Lothian**

cc: Executive Nurse Director