

Date 13/08/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 10347

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – ORTHOPAEDIC CRUTCHES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to orthopaedic crutches. Please note that there are no Trusts within the NHS in Scotland.

Question:

- Please provide the number of orthopaedic crutches issued by your Trust between 2020 & 2025, and the associated annual cost.

Answer:

Year	Total Spend	Total Purchased
2020	£4,964.39	517
2021	£9,616.13	1,015
2022	£47,161.17	5,665
2023	£55,164.57	6,465
2024	£56,111.47	6,173
2025	£33,754.57	3,464

Question:

Please also provide the number of crutches returned (% return rate) and any internal policies regarding reuse or recycling.

Answer:

We do not have any information on the numbers returned or the internal policies. You will need to contact the Community Equipment Stores run by the Local Authorities.

City of Edinburgh Council Central Freedom of Information Unit 3.1 Waverley Court 4 East Market Street	East Lothian Council Corporate Resources, John Muir House, Haddington, EH41 3HA
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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

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Midlothian Council Customer Services Midlothian House Buccleuch Street Dalkeith Midlothian EH22 1DN foi@midlothian.gov.uk	West Lothian Council, Customer Services, Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, EH54 6FF customer.service@westlothian.gov.uk

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. 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