

Date 16/12/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 10709

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – BIRTH CENTRE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Birth Centre closures.

Question:

- For each month (or week, if available) of the current calendar year (2025), please provide details of when the Birth Centre at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh has been:
 - Open and accepting admissions, and
 - Closed or temporarily unavailable for admissions.
- If available, please also include:
 - The total number of days (or hours) the Birth Centre has been closed in 2025 to date.
 - The reasons recorded for each closure (e.g., staffing shortages, capacity issues, maintenance, etc.).

Answer:

	Number of Days Closed	Hours closed	Reason
Jan	25	287.5	Staff shortages
Feb	14	161	Staff shortages
Mar	4	46	Staff shortages
Apr	4	46	Staff shortages
May	1	11.5	Staff shortages
Jun	7	80.5	Staff shortages
Jul	No Data		
Aug	16	184	Staff shortages
Sep	5	57.5	Staff shortages
Oct	17	195.5	Staff shortages
Nov	4	46	Staff shortages

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

I hope the information provided helped 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