

Date 18/11/2025  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 10758

Enquiries to Richard Mutch  
Extension 35687  
Direct Line 0131 465 5687  
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Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – DELAYED DISCHARGE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to delayed discharge.

### Question:

- In each of the last 5 years, how many patients have been in hospital due to delayed discharge in the period between 22<sup>nd</sup> December to 4<sup>th</sup> January inclusive?

### Answer:

Date (inclusive)	Number of patients in delay
22-Dec-2020 to 04 Jan 2021	281
22-Dec-2021 to 04 Jan 2022	413
22-Dec-2022 to 04 Jan 2023	361
22-Dec-2023 to 04 Jan 2024	329
22-Dec-2024 to 04 Jan 2025	379

- All PHS delay codes are included except 100s
- A patient is counted once if in delay for any part of a day in the noted period
- All NHS Lothian sites included

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

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*

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

Yours sincerely

**ALISON MACDONALD**  
**Executive Director, Nursing**  
Cc: Chief Executive