

Date 12/12/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 10864

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – HISTOPATHOLOGY OUTSOURCING

I write in response to your request for information in relation to histopathology outsourcing.

Question:

- Please can you confirm the histopathology outsourcing information for the period November 2024 to October 2025 inclusive:

Answer:

Overall	Wet lab work (plus reporting) outsourced	Glass slide reporting outsourced	Digital slide reporting outsourced
No. cases	467	0	0
Spend	£128,587.60		
Av. time from send to report	N/A		

Question:

- Please confirm which outsourcing providers were used in the period and their contract end dates, plus any minimum activity or exclusivity commitment:

Answer

Provider name	Contract end date	Minimum activity or exclusivity commitment
Source Bioscience	8 th April 2026	N/A

Question:

- Please can you confirm the histopathology outsourcing information for the period November 2024 to October 2025 inclusive by provider:

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*

Answer

Source Bioscience	Wet lab work (plus reporting) outsourced	<u>Glass slide</u> dry reporting outsourced	<u>Digital slide</u> dry reporting outsourced
No. cases	467	0	0
Spend	£128,587.60		
Av. time from send to report	N/A		

Question:

- Please confirm which specialisms you outsourced over the period November 2024 to October 2025 inclusive:

Answer

Endoscopy biopsies.

Question:

- Please confirm your total histopathology activity by year:

Answer

	Total no. histopathology cases
2023 1 st April 23 – 31 st March 2024	56,722
2024 1 st April 24 – 31 st March 2025	54,701
2025 YTD,	41,138

Question:

- Please confirm your spend on histopathology locum staff cover over the period November 2024 to October 2025 inclusive, split by consultant pathologist and lab staff:

Answer

	consultant pathologist	Lab staff
Spend	0	£86,986.33

Question:

- Please confirm what % of your histopathology work was reported digitally over the period August 2025 to October 2025 inclusive, excluding outsourced reporting

Answer

10%

Question:

- Please confirm the histopathology IT applications in use:

Answer

	PACS / Imaging management system	LIMS (or equivalent)	Scanner manufacturer(s)
Product name	Intellisite Pathology	APEX	SG300 and Ultra fast Scanner
Product version/model	IMS 4.2.5	V6.2	1.2 version software/firmware (SG300) L6 for UFS
Vendor	Philips	Dedalus	Philips

Question:

- Please confirm the volume of any specific histopathology reporting(post-wet lab) backlog you have now?

Answer

No backlog

Question:

- Please confirm the volume of any specific histopathology dissection backlog you have now?

Answer

No Backlog

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