

Date 22/12/2025  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 10898

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Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – BLS TRAINING

I write in response to your request for information in relation to BLS training.

Question:

1. What is the required frequency for statutory BLS training?
2. What incentives or measures has the trust adopted to encourage annual BLS training for medical professionals with patient facing duties ( no pay progression if mandatory training not completed, departmental sessions, ESR alerts, managerial supervision of mandatory training etc)?
3. Does the organisation require resus teams to have Advanced Life Support training?

Answer:

1.	BLS training is not a legal statutory requirement in Scotland. The Resuscitation Council UK (RCUK) quality standards "recommend annual training" for clinical staff. This does not dictate what format it should be delivered in and a combination is acceptable i.e. face to face or e-learning.
2.	We are not aware of any incentives being in place.
3.	RCUK quality standards indicate that the Resus Team Lead should be an ALS provider.

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](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