

Date 14/01/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 10931

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
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Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – PLAY TEAM

I write in response to your request for information in relation to the Play Team and/or Health Play Specialists and/or health play qualified workers

Question:

- Enclosed spreadsheet in relation to the Play Team and/or Health Play Specialists and/or health play qualified workers

Answer:

Please see the enclosed response in the spreadsheet provided.

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

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive
Enc.

Name of hospital OR team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds	When recruiting a Health Play Specialist, do you request a qualification in Health Play Specialist as essential criteria for the role? [YN]	Do you recruit people into a Health Play Specialist role, that do not have a qualification in health play specialist? [YN]; if yes, is it mandatory for them to have a qualification when in post? [YN]
RHCP	Y	N

Section 5a: FOR ACUTE HOSPITALS ONLY - Information about play coverage

For each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know about the play coverage in terms of hours/times of day.

To provide this information, please use the following table (you may need to list each hospital in multiple rows to cover all wards/departments).

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Name of ward/department that cares for 0-17 year olds	What hours are the Play Team available on weekdays? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc)	What hours are the Play Team available on weekends? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc); (write N/A if not available on weekends)	What are the opening hours of the <u>indoor</u> playroom/area on weekdays? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc) (write N/A if no indoor playroom)	What are the opening hours of the <u>indoor</u> playroom/area on weekends? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc) (write N/A if no indoor playroom)	What are the opening hours of the designated <u>outdoor</u> play area on weekdays? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc) (write N/A if no outdoor play area)	What are the opening hours of the designated <u>outdoor</u> play area on weekends? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc) (write N/A if no outdoor play area)
RHCP	Castle May	9-5	N/A				
RHCP	Dalhousie	8-4	N/A				
RHCP	Dalston	230-3					
RHCP	Eastgate	8-4	N/A				
RHCP	Outpatients	8-4-30	N/A				
RHCP	Emergency Department	11-5-30	N/A				
RHCP	Tartanion	8-3	N/A				
RHCP	Pediatric Critical Care	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
RHCP	Domestic	8-4-4-30	N/A				
RHCP	Recovery	8-4	N/A				
St John's Hospital	Children's Ward	8-15 - 2-45	N/A				
RHCP	Orchard	8-4-30	N/A				

Also, for each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know the following information:

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Do you have any other measures/provisions that make this hospital or ward/department more welcoming or playful for children and young people before attending an appointment/admission? [YN]
	If yes, please tell us what these measures/provisions are:
RHCP	Y - procedural amnesty team
	Y - artwork on walls
	Y - pre-assessment
	Y - Edinburgh Childrens Hospital Charity Hub
	Y - hospital visits
	Y - Edinburgh Childrens Hospital Charity Walkabouts

Section 5b: FOR COMMUNITY OR MENTAL HEALTH TEAMS/SETTINGS/SERVICES ONLY - Information about play coverage

For each learning/service that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know about the play coverage in terms of hours/times of day.

To provide this information, please use the following table.

Name of team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds	What hours are health play professionals available on weekdays? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc)	What hours are health play professionals available on weekends? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc); (write N/A if not available on weekends)	What are the opening hours of the <u>indoor</u> playroom/area on weekdays? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc) (write N/A if no indoor playroom)	What are the opening hours of the <u>indoor</u> playroom/area on weekends? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc) (write N/A if no indoor playroom)	What are the opening hours of the designated <u>outdoor</u> play area on weekdays? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc) (write N/A if no outdoor play area)	What are the opening hours of the designated <u>outdoor</u> play area on weekends? (e.g. 9-5, 24/7 etc) (write N/A if no outdoor play area)
CAMHS South Out-Patient Team	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CAMHS North Out-Patient Team	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CAMHS Midlothian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CAMHS East Lothian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CAMHS West Lothian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Also, for each team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know the following information:

Name of team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds	Do you have any other measures/provisions that make this team/setting/service more welcoming or playful for children and young people during their appointment/admission? [YN]
	If yes, please tell us what these measures/provisions are:
CAMHS South Edinburgh	Y - waiting area has not been refreshed with decor and murals designed by art
CAMHS North DBP Patient Team	N/A
CAMHS North DBP Patient Team	Artists use appropriate age related resources
CAMHS East Lothian	N/A
CAMHS East Lothian	Artists use appropriate age related resources
CAMHS West Lothian	N/A
CAMHS West Lothian	Artists use appropriate age related resources

Section 6a: FOR ACUTE HOSPITALS ONLY - Information about play budgets

For each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know information about the annual budget for play.

To provide this information, please use the following table:

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Is there an annual budget specifically for play resources and materials through a central budget? [YN] (but resources can be purchased through a central budget)	Is there an annual budget specifically for health play staffing and training? [YN]
RHCP	No but resources can be purchased through a central budget	N

If you answered 'Yes' or 'No' but resources can be purchased through a central budget - I would also like to know what the annual budget was for play in healthcare in FY24-25 (between 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025) and what it was spent on.

To provide this information, please use the following table (you may need to list each hospital in multiple rows to cover all wards/departments):

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Name of ward/department that cares for 0-17 year olds	What was the approximate overall annual budget available for play in FY24-25 (In £)	How much of the budget was spent on Play Team staffing? (In £)	How much of the budget was spent on resources and materials in play? (In £)	How much of the budget was spent on commissioning/paying for external providers to provide play or providing play on an ad-hoc basis? (In £) (please list these organisations/individuals)	How much of the budget was spent on health play staff training and development budget? (In £)
RHCP	Band 2	£154,000	£154,000	£0	£0	£0
RHCP	Band 4	£427,000	£427,000	£0	£0	£0
RHCP	Band 6	£58,000	£58,000	£0	£0	£0

For each hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know who funds the budget for play staff / resources (e.g., ICB, Health Board, Charity, a Fundraising Group, other donations, etc.).

To provide this information, please use the following table (you may need to list each hospital in multiple rows to cover all wards/departments): If more than one funder, please specify in the table below who they are and what they are funding.

Name of hospital that cares for 0-17 year olds	Name of ward/department that cares for 0-17 year olds	Funder/source of donations	Value of fund/donation (In £)	What are they funding? (e.g., play team, toys and resources, external entertainers)
RHCP	Pan hospital	Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity	£13,400	Arts, crafts, rewards and toys

Section 6b: FOR COMMUNITY OR MENTAL HEALTH TEAMS/SETTINGS/SERVICES ONLY - Information about play budgets

For each learning/service that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know information about the annual budget for play.

To provide this information, please use the following table:

Name of team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds	Is there an annual budget specifically for play resources and materials (aside from health play staff)? (Y/N) If no, but resources can be purchased through a central budget.	Is there an annual budget specifically for health play staffing and training? (Y/N)

If you answered 'Yes' or 'No' but resources can be purchased through a central budget', I would also like to know what the annual budget was for play in healthcare in FY24-25 (between 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025) and what it was spent on. To provide this information, please use the following table.

Name of team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds	What was the approximate overall annual budget available for play in FY24-25? (in £)	How much of the budget was spent on health play professional staffing? (in £)	How much of the budget was spent on resources and materials in play? (in £)	How much of the budget was spent on commissioning/paying for external providers to deliver or support play on an ad-hoc basis? (in £) (please list these organisations/individuals)	How much of the budget was spent on health play staff training and development budget? (in £)

For each team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know who funds the budget for play staff / resources (e.g. ICB, Health Board, Charity, a Fundraising Group, other donations, etc.).

To provide this information, please use the following table. If more than one funder, please specify in the table below who they are and what they are funding.

Name of team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds	Funder/source of donations	Value of fund/funding (in £)	What are they funding? (e.g., health play professionals, toys and resources, external entertainers)

Section 7: Information about the Play Well Toolkit

For each hospital OR team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know information about the Play Well Toolkit.

To provide this information, please use the following table:

Name of hospital OR team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds	Is this hospital or team/setting/service aware of the Play Well Toolkit? (Y/N). If yes, would it be useful to adopt the Play Well recommended standards and guidance in Scotland? (Y/N)	Do you have any other guidelines/polices on how play should be delivered in your Health Board? (Y/N). If yes, please share it with us if you can.
RHCP	Y	Awaiting SCOPS guidance

Section 8: Information about measurement tools for 0-17 year olds

For each hospital OR team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds, I would like to know information about measurement tools.

To provide this information, please use the following table:

Name of hospital OR team/setting/service that cares for 0-17 year olds	Does this hospital or team/setting/service measure procedural anxiety for 0-17 year olds? (Y/N) If Yes, please share the measurement tools with us if you can.	Does this hospital or team/setting/service measure pain for 0-17 year olds? (Y/N) If Yes, please share the measurement tools with us if you can.	Does this hospital or team/setting/service measure emotions/how they are feeling for 0-17 year olds? (Y/N) If Yes, please share the measurement tools with us if you can.	Does this hospital or team/setting/service evaluate the quality of play? (Y/N) If yes, do they evaluate the efficiencies and cost benefits of play? (Y/N) If yes, please share any reports or evidence with us if you can.
RHCP	N	N	N	N

Appendix A

Play Team job titles and their definitions (not an exhaustive list):

- **Health Play Specialist...** are clinical support professionals with the skills to safeguard children's emotional and mental health during treatment and procedures, and throughout their healthcare journeys. They will often also manage the play team. Health Play Specialists should have completed, or be completing, a Diploma in Health Play Specialism.
- **Play Therapists...** provide opportunities for children to play, support them then play, liaise with them through play and thereby build trusting relationships and communication with young patients.
- **Youth workers...** ensure adolescents receiving medical treatment can receive age-appropriate support, have their individual needs assessed and are referred to resources and services that align with their interests and needs. A youth worker is essential in supporting a young person into adult care, if required, and sourcing services that the young person can use to support them during this transition.
- **Play Therapists...** have a qualification in play therapy and help children to make sense of difficult life experiences, or complex psychological issues through play and will work to improve children's mental health, emotional well-being, learning capabilities and social relationships.