

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT CAPACITY**

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Emergency Department capacity.

Question:

- Please state the operational capacity and design capacity for the emergency departments of each of the hospitals listed below.
  - Royal Hospital for Children and Young People (RHYCP)
  - Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh (RIE)
  - St John’s Hospital (SJH)

Answer:

Site	Number and type of spaces within the ED
RHYCP	2 x 2 bedded resus rooms 14 treatment cubicles 1 triage assessment room 1 interview room / bereavement suite
RIE	34 cubicles, 4 resus spaces
SJH	20 trolley spaces & 3 resus spaces

Question:

- For the hospitals listed, please confirm, the actual capacity of each one on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month this year (January to December 2025). If this helps the definition I am using is the maximum capacity or the maximum number of beds that the A&E department is supposed to have – versus how many does it have on the wards at the current time (i.e additional beds due to corridor care)

Answer:

The table below contains the peak occupancy on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month for RIE, SJH and RHCYP Emergency Departments. Please note, this does not relate to capacity and simply shows the maximum total number of patients in the ED on those days

Month	RIE	SJH	RHCYP
01/01/2025	92	49	23
01/02/2025	84	27	29
01/03/2025	104	42	32
01/04/2025	85	51	34
01/05/2025	106	45	36
01/06/2025	117	57	32
01/07/2025	77	41	29
01/08/2025	72	38	22
01/09/2025	125	70	38
01/10/2025	106	48	41
01/11/2025	88	40	31
01/12/2025	137	69	51

## Notes:-

1. Maximum number of patients in the ED is calculated by calculating number of patients in the ED each minute on that day
2. This includes only patients under the four hour target but excludes CallMIA patients as we cannot identify their arrival and discharge times

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

Yours sincerely

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Cc: Chief Executive