

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – HYSTERECTOMY**

I write in response to your request for information in relation to hysterectomy procedures.

Question:

- For each financial year from 2019/20 to 2025/26 (most recent):
  1. the total number of referrals for a hysterectomy
  2. the median completed wait (**in days**) for a hysterectomy
  3. the longest completed waited (**in days**) for a hysterectomy
  4. the median ongoing wait (**in days**) for a hysterectomy
  5. the longest ongoing wait (**in days**) for a hysterectomy

Answer:

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26 (Nov)
1.	1304	817	979	1041	768	1264	885
2.	100	106	118	119	144	75	46
3.	We are not able to provide the longest waiting time as this could lead to the identification of the individual patients involved. Since we do not have their consent to release this data from their records, the information is exempt under section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act i.e. to provide it would breach the Data Protection Act (2018). The average over the 7 year period is 765.						
4.	-	-	-	-	808	415	121
5.	-	-	-	-	821	667	303

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Chair Professor John Connaghan CBE  
 Chief Executive Professor Caroline Hiscox  
 Lothian NHS Board is the common name of Lothian Health Board



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