

Date 29/01/2026  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 10991

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Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – CLINICAL LEAD

I write in response to your request for information in relation to details for Clinical Leads.

Question:

1. The name and role title of the current Clinical Lead (or equivalent senior clinical leadership role) for:

Answer:

- Ophthalmology - Dr Ashraf Khan, Clinical Director
- Diagnostic and Clinical Neurosciences (DCN)  
CD for Neurology is Dr Chris Derry  
CD for Neurosurgery is Neurology Mr Jothy Kandasamy

Question:

2. The date from which each individual has held that role.

Answer:

- Ophthalmology - May 2025
- Diagnostic and Clinical Neurosciences (DCN)  
CD for Neurology - Since 04/01/21  
CD for Neurosurgery and CD for Neurology – Since 01/01/26

Question:

3. If applicable, the name of the previous Clinical Lead for each department and the date their term ended. -

Answer:

- Ophthalmology - Dr James Cameron, up until April 2025
- Diagnostic and Clinical Neurosciences (DCN)  
Prior to 04/01/21, the Clinical Director for DCN was Mr Michael Fitzpatrick, who had responsibility for neurosurgery and neurology. Mr Fitzpatrick had been CD for several years

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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*

before that. We cannot provide the start date without retrieving and extracting from the archived personnel file.

On 04/01/21, the role was split into a CD for Neurosurgery and CD for Neurology  
From 04/01/21 the following have been CD for Neurosurgery

- Mr Michael Fitzpatrick 04/01/21 to 31/03/22
- Professor Paul Brennan 01/04/22 to 31/12/25
- Mr Jothy Kandasamy from 01/01/26

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