

Date 30/01/2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11014

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
Extension 35687
Direct Line 0131 465 5687
loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot
richard.mutch@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – FUNCTIONAL NEUROLOGICAL DISORDER

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Functional Neurological Disorder (FND).

Question:

- I am writing to ask the following questions about individuals living with Functional Neurological Disorder (FND) in your Health Board area, which may also be recorded under the ICD-10 classification system as section F44 Dissociative and Conversion Disorders and the associated subsections.
 - Could you please respond as to how many individual persons of any age that are registered with a GP practice in your Health Board area as of 1st December 2025 that have been potentially or actually confirmed as having a diagnosis of Functional neurological disorder on their medical records either by naming the diagnosis as Functional neurological disorder, FND or recording under the ICD-10 classification of section F44 Dissociative and Conversion Disorders or categories thereunder (F44.4, F44.5, F44.6, F44.7 or F44.9). If you are trialling using the ICD-11 classification system at present I would be obliged if you used the appropriate coding classification.
 - Please indicate the number of individual persons that have been diagnosed or potentially diagnosed with FND or dissociative/conversion disorder by a neurologist in your Health Board area or by a specialist referral to another Board in the following tax years:

2020/2021 2021/2022 2022/2023 2023/2024

Any number under the value of ten for that tax year can be indicated as such in your reply.

Answer:

I am advised that this information is not held in a centrally extractable format. Under the Freedom of Information Act NHS Lothian is not required to create new records to enable it to respond to your enquiry. This information is not collated or held in aggregate form and it

Headquarters
Mainpoint
102 West Port
Edinburgh EH3 9DN

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



would be necessary to review all case files relating to patients over the period you have requested to assemble the information you seek. Even if NHS Lothian did this – and there would be significant cost implications in doing so – it would be unable to respond in full to your request. The information requested is therefore exempt under section 12.1 – Cost.

I am further advised that the closest we could provide would be the number of distinct individuals who have had an inpatient stay where the codes provided were clinically coded against that stay. If you would like this please let me know.

I am sorry I cannot help 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