

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – MRI WAITING TIMES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to MRI waiting times in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. Can you please advise the average waiting time for a person for an MRI back scan when the person has been referred for the scan from the "NHS Lothian Department of Spinal iMSK Advanced Practice" (from referral date to the date of the appointment for the MRI scan)? This would be for a person is on the normal waiting list and not the urgent waiting list for an MRI back scan.

Answer:

From 1 April to 31 December 2025 the average waiting time for a referral from the Spinal iMSK Advanced Practice is 26 weeks.

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 <https://www.foi.scot/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 reviewer at the address at the top 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>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director of Nursing Midwifery and AHPs
Cc: Chief Executive