

Date 24/02/2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11089

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – NEURO-PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to neuro-psychological tests.

Question:

- Under the Freedom of Information Act please tell me how long the waiting list is for people to have neuro-psychological tests
 - Specifically, I am interested in the waiting time for people thought to have neurodegenerative conditions such as Alzheimer's or other dementias,
 - What is the longest time someone on such a list has had to wait?
 - How many people are on the list?

Answer:

I am advised that we do not hold figures to answer your request for NHS Lothian as a whole 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 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.

We can only report accurate figures for Edinburgh and West Lothian. Other areas have waiting lists for new patients which have a mixture of memory assessment referrals and referrals for other reasons. If you would like the data for Edinburgh and West Lothian please let me know and we can provide.

I am sorry I cannot help with your request.

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



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

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive