

Date 03/03/2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11124

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
Extension 35687
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Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – WAITING TIMES

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

Question:

- Please provide the following information for your Trust, covering the last five financial years (2020/21 - 2024/25)
1. **Waiting Times and Access Indicators (Local Service Strain)**
 - a. For each year listed above, please provide:
Referral-to-Treatment (RTT) elective waiting-time indicators, if held:
 - Median RTT waiting time (in weeks)
 - Number of patients waiting over 18 weeks (at year-end)
 - Number of patients waiting over 52 weeks (at year-end)

Answer:

The 18 week Referral to treatment target doesn't exist in Scotland and we don't have the ability to link OP and IP waits so we can't answer this part of the question

Question:

- b. The median waiting time for outpatient appointments in the following specialities:
 - Endocrinology / Diabetes
 - Cardiology
 - Orthopaedics

Answer:

I am advised that this information is available for the while of Scotland on the PHS web site at the following link - [Dashboard - Stage of treatment waiting times - Inpatients, day cases and new outpatients 3 February 2026 - NHS waiting times - stage of treatment - Publications - Public Health Scotland](#)

This information is exempt under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information otherwise accessible
 (1) Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under section 1(1) is exempt information.

Question:

2. Obesity-Related Hospital Admissions and Demand

For each year listed above, please provide:

- a. The total number of inpatient admissions where obesity was recorded as:
 - A primary diagnosis (ICD-10 code E66), and/or
 - A secondary diagnosis

Answer:

Please see enclosed spreadsheet.

Question:

- b. The total number of admissions for the following obesity-related conditions (where obesity is a major risk factor), if available:
 - Type 2 diabetes (E11)
 - Coronary heart disease / myocardial infarction (I20–I25)
 - Stroke (I60–I69)

Answer:

Please see enclosed spreadsheet.

Question:

3. If held, the total number of admissions specifically linked to bariatric surgery or specialist weight-management intervention.

Answer:

The information we record does not specify private/NHS or planned/emergence. We started recording *referrals* to the service from private surgery in year 2022/23

From that (likely incomplete) record private *admissions* were:

Year	Private Admissions
2022/23	5<
2023/24	9
2024/25	7

To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 5 or less has not been shown in the table above. 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).

In terms of *planned* admissions for surgery:

Year	Planned Admissions
2020/21	8
2021/22	19
2022/23	19
2023/24	22
2024/25	55

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. 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
Enc.

Obesity waiting times and activity - FOI11124

Questions: Please provide the following information for your Trust, covering the last five financial years (2020/21 - 2024/25)

1. The median waiting time for outpatient appointments in the following specialities:

Endocrinology / Diabetes

Cardiology

Orthopaedics

2. The total number of inpatient admissions where obesity was recorded as:

A primary diagnosis (ICD-10 code E66), and/or secondary diagnosis

3. The total number of admissions for the following obesity-related conditions (where obesity is a major risk factor), if available:

Type 2 diabetes (E11)

Coronary heart disease / myocardial infarction (I20–I25)

Stroke (I60–I69)

Source: TRAK ORACLE **Please note that this analysis comes from a LIVE System - if this analysis were to be re-run at a later date the figures may be subject to change.*

Date Extracted: 23rd Feb 2026

Answers: see data tabs

Notes Q1 answer only includes completed outpatient appointments under the specified national specialties, removed from the list between '01, Apr, 2020' and '31, Mar, 2025'
Q2 and Q3 answers only includes inpatient admissions for the specified diagnoses, admitted between '01, Apr, 2020' and '31, Mar, 2025'

Scheduled Care

Analytical Services

NHS Lothian

email: Jason.Clark@nhs.scot

National Specialty	31-Mar-21		31-Mar-22		31-Mar-23		31-Mar-24		31-Mar-25	
	APPOINTMENTS	MEDIAN WAIT (days)								
CARDIOLOGY	22054	20	27827	20	30434	23	35596	20	35035	21
DIABETES	2779	7	3462	7	3026	14	4180	3	5818	3
ENDOCRINOLOGY	4120	8	4795	10	5692	7	7276	6	7826	7
ENDOCRINOLOGY & DIABETES	100	21.5	133	29	101	41	118	46	87	39

Question 2

Obesity (E66)

Financial_year_end	IP Admissions
31-Mar-21	846
31-Mar-22	825
31-Mar-23	663
31-Mar-24	626
31-Mar-25	612

Question 3

Diabetes (E11)

Financial_year_end	IP Admissions
31-Mar-21	8399
31-Mar-22	9054
31-Mar-23	8752
31-Mar-24	8733
31-Mar-25	7007

Coronary heart disease / myocardial infarction (I20–I25)

Financial_year_end	IP Admissions
31-Mar-21	9408
31-Mar-22	10163
31-Mar-23	8817
31-Mar-24	9158
31-Mar-25	7289

Stroke (I60–I69)

Financial_year_end	IP Admissions
31-Mar-21	2978
31-Mar-22	2984
31-Mar-23	2964
31-Mar-24	2826
31-Mar-25	2725