

Date 13/03/2026
 Your Ref
 Our Ref 11147

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – DELAYED DISCHARGE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to delayed discharge.

Question:

- How many patients classed as delayed discharge have died annually since 2018-19 to the date you received this request. Please separate each year out into separate figures, for example x in 2018-19, y in 2019-20, z in 2020-21 and so on, and also provide an overall total.

Answer:

| Financial year | Number of patients who died while in delay |
|-----------------|--|
| 2018/19 | 76 |
| 2019/20 | 58 |
| 2020/21 | 13 |
| 2021/22 | 51 |
| 2022/23 | 59 |
| 2023/24 | 33 |
| 2024/25 | 37 |
| 2025/26 to date | 35 |
| Total | 362 |

Notes:

1. Includes data up to 31st January 2026
2. Includes delayed discharges under the codes: 11A-B,23C-D, 24A-F, 25A, 25D, 25E-F, 27A, 44, 51, 52, 61, 67, 71, 72, 73, 74, and all 9 codes

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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



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