

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – SOCIAL CARE HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to social care hospital admissions in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. In addition to the national data on A&E admissions (see link below), do your hospitals collect any data on the causes of hospital admissions? We are specifically interested in any data that records the causes of hospital admissions resulting from a breakdown in social care arrangements, or patients not coping at home, for the person cared for or their carer. If you collect such data, please provide it for the last five years.

Answer:

The table below details admissions to hospital with a recorded diagnosis of Z73.9 ‘problem related to life management difficulty, unspecified’ and Z74 ‘problems related to care provider dependency’.

Social care admissions to hospital, NHS Lothian	
Year	Number of admissions
2021	14
2022	24
2023	20
2024	22
2025	28

Question:

2. Has your health board conducted studies, reports, or similar analyses on the impact of social care provision on hospital admissions?

Answer:

No, NHS Lothian has not conducted any studies, reports or similar analysis on the impact of social care provision on hospital admissions.



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.nhslothian.scot/FOI>

Yours sincerely

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