Lothian NHS Board

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Date: 24/03/2026
Our Ref: 11165
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Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – IT SECURITY

I write in response to your request for information in relation to IT security procurement in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. Please provide the record from the organisation's Contract Register or equivalent procurement log entry pertaining to the current contract for the Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR) solution (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])

DEFINITION: The practice of securing organisational assets such as laptops, desktops, mobile phones, and servers against malicious activity. It encompasses tools and strategies designed to detect, prevent, and respond to threats directly on the device itself.

2. Please provide the following information for the current maintenance and licensing agreement for the primary Perimeter Firewall/Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) solution (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])

DEFINITION: The processes and technologies used to protect the boundaries (the perimeter) of an organisation's internal network from unauthorised external access. It involves monitoring and controlling incoming and outgoing network traffic.

3. Please provide the following information for the service agreement covering the Cloud Security Posture Management (CSPM) platform or equivalent third-party cloud security monitoring too (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])

DEFINITION: The set of security measures designed to protect data, applications, and infrastructure running in cloud environments (e.g., AWS, Azure, GCP). It also includes securing internally and externally facing applications themselves (application security).

4. Please provide the following information for the service agreement covering your Identity & Access Management (IAM) software (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])

DEFINITION: A framework of policies and technologies that ensures the right users have the appropriate access to the right resources at the right time. It involves managing digital identities, authentication (verifying identity), and authorisation (granting access).

5. Please provide the record from the organisation's Contract Register or equivalent procurement log entry pertaining to the current contract for your current Managed Security / SOC Services (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])

DEFINITION: The outsourcing of security monitoring and management to a third-party expert. A Security Operations Center (SOC) is a centralised function (internal or outsourced) responsible for continuous monitoring, threat analysis, and managing security incidents.

6. Please provide the record from the organisation's Contract Register or equivalent procurement log entry pertaining to the current contract for your current Vulnerability & Compliance Management service (Include Supplier, Product Name, Start Date, Expiry Date, Annual spend 2025/2026 [£], Additional notes [including any framework used])

DEFINITION: The continuous, cyclical practice of identifying, classifying, prioritising, remediating, and mitigating software weaknesses (vulnerabilities). Compliance Management ensures that security practices adhere to specific internal policies, regulatory requirements (like GDPR), and industry standards.

Answer:

We are not able to release information about NHS Lothian’s security software and security tools. Having this information in the public domain would be likely to compromise the security of NHS Lothian’s systems and data. Under section 30 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, information is exempt from release if it would prejudice substantially, or be likely to prejudice substantially, the effective conduct of public affairs.

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