

Date 18/03/2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11201

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – VACANT GP POSTS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to vacant GP posts.

Question:

- Please provide a list of the currently vacant GP posts in salaried practices in your health board area which have been advertised on more than one occasion (i.e. been re-advertised). For each post that has been advertised on more than one occasion, please provide (i) the number of times it has been advertised and (ii) each time it was advertised, how many applications were received. Please provide the longest length of time that any currently vacant GP post has been unfilled and the location of this vacancy.

Please provide a position statement for each salaried GP practice in your health board area which is currently experiencing recruitment difficulties. For example, how many vacancies are there at each of these practices, how long has the recruitment process been underway and what impact has this had on the services available to patients.

Answer:

Most GP Practices are independent contractors responsible for dealing with their own information and requests. As per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 formally I must advise that we do not hold this information.

In relation to 2c practices there are no current vacant GP posts and recruitment for the last 2 years was not an issue.

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

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*



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