

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – AGENCY DENTISTS**

I write in response to your request for information in relation to agency dentists employed in NHS Lothian.

**Question:**

I wish to make a Freedom of Information Request for the amount spent on locum/agency Dentists for the financial year of 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 & 2025 to the present date.

**Answer:**

The information you have request is detailed in the table below. This includes locum consultant dentists employed through NHS Lothian’s internal staff bank, and those employed through external agencies.

Spend on locum and agency dental consultants, NHS Lothian		
Year	NHS Lothian staff bank	External agency
2020/21	£201,205	£31,924
2021/22	£140,306	£2,503
2022/23	£183,252	0
2023/24	£156,164	£115,831
2024/25	£225,718	£64,233
2025/26 to 25 March 2026	£132,735	0

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.



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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

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