

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – NEURODEVELOPMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

I write in response to your request for information in relation to neurodevelopmental assessment waits.

Question:

- In accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I would be grateful if you could provide the following information:
  1. The current number of children waiting for a neurodevelopmental assessment.
  2. For those children currently waiting:
    - a. The average time which they have been on the waiting list.
    - b. The longest time a patient currently on the waiting list has been there.
  3. The currently expected waiting time for new referrals. If it is not possible to provide this measure, please provide any other broadly equivalent measure of waiting times which might be available.
  4. Whether the health board currently offers neurodevelopmental assessments to adults, and if so equivalent figures as requested in points 1, 2 and 3.

Answer:

**Children & Young People neurodevelopment assessment waiting list**

1.	There are currently 11,419 CYP on the Neurodevelopmental assessment waiting list (at 27/02/2026)
2.	The median time waited for those on the list is 92 weeks
3.	We are unable to provide an accurate response to this question. The median wait for CYP seen for an assessment in 2025 was 125 weeks

**Adult neurodevelopment assessment waiting list**

1.	There are currently 13,537 adults on the Neurodevelopmental assessment waiting list (at 27/02/2026)
2.	The median time waited for those on the list is 99 weeks
3.	We are unable to provide an accurate response to this question. The median wait for adults seen for an assessment in 2025 was 165 weeks.

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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*





We are not able to give the longest waiting time as this could lead to the identification of the individual patient involved. Since we do not have their consent to release their personal data, the information is exempt under Section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 – personal information.

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](http://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.nhsllothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

**ALISON MACDONALD**  
**Executive Director, Nursing**  
Cc: Chief Executive