

Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – FLOODING

I write in response to your request for information in relation to service closures due to flooding in NHS Lothian.

### Question:

Please provide details of all the occasions on which wards, departments or services at hospitals and other sites operated by your NHS Scotland board have been temporarily or permanently closed due to flooding caused by external weather events e.g. heavy rainfall, river flooding etc., over the period 2021/22 to 2025/26. Specifically, please provide the following information in a spreadsheet format:

- Site name (e.g. hospital)
- Name of ward/department/service that was affected
- Length of closure
- Dates of closure

I realise that the 2025/26 data will be incomplete, but please provide information for 2026 up to 24 February.

### Answer:

I am advised that no wards, services or departments in NHS Lothian have been closed due to flooding or heavy rainfall during the period you have requested. At the Western General Hospital some individual beds have previously been closed due to leaks. These were in buildings which are now no longer in use and were due to the condition of the buildings rather than specific weather events. There is no central record held of the dates and durations of these individual bed closures.

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**  
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Cc: Chief Executive