

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – MATERNITY SERVICES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to maternity services.

Question:

1. How many women gave birth each year between 2020 and 2025? Please detail the number for each year.

Answer:

Year	Total
2020	8264
2021	8602
2022	8137
2023	7898
2024	8159
2025	7725

Question:

2. How many of these women were on a 'green pathway' (or health board equivalent) or classed as 'low risk' each year between 2020 and 2025? Please detail the number for each year.

Answer:

Year	Total
2020	4613
2021	4548
2022	3484
2023	2756
2024	2589
2025	2012

Question:

3. How many women received a C-section to give birth each year between 2020 and 2025? Please detail the number for each year.

Answer:

Year	Total
2020	2901
2021	3055
2022	2968
2023	3379
2024	3565
2025	3444

Question:

4. How many people gave birth who registered as a gender different from their sex assigned at birth each year between 2020 and 2025? Please detail the number for each year –

Answer:

ZERO, based on the information we hold within Maternity TRAK

Question:

5. How many complaints has the health board received that reference 'misogyny' or 'sexism' in each year between 2020 and 2025? Please detail the number for each year.

Answer:

A search was done in DATIX and found five cases but neither of these cases relate to Maternity services.

To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 5 or less has not been shown in this response. Since we do not have their consent to release this data from their records, the information is exempt under section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act i.e. to provide it would breach the Data Protection Act (2018).

Question:

6. How many women have submitted a complaint to the health board each year between 2020 and 2025? Please display this as a percentage.

Answer:

Can you clarify -

- *ALL complaints that have been made by ALL women over the 5 year period , or*
- *complaints made about Women's Services and if so, does this mean Maternity Services only (excluding Neonates and Gynae)*

Please also note that complaints annual reports are already publicly available here: [Annual Reports – Your Rights & Privacy](#)

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. 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