

Date 21/04/2026  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 11318

Enquiries to Richard Mutch  
Extension 35687  
Direct Line 0131 465 5687  
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Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – NEURODIVERGENT PATIENTS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to neurodivergent patients and maternity.

Question:

- I would be grateful if you could confirm whether your trust holds the following information, and if so, provide copies or links where available:
  - Policies and Procedures**  
Does your trust have any formal policies, pathways, or standard operating procedures that reference the care of neurodivergent patients during labour and birth? If so, please provide copies or links.
  - Guidelines or Protocols for Staff**  
Does your trust provide any guidance or protocols for staff relating to communication approaches, sensory adjustments, reasonable adjustments, or other supportive care for neurodivergent patients during the intrapartum period? If so, please provide copies or links.
  - Resources, Tools, or Training Materials**  
Does your trust use any resources, tools, or training materials (e.g. visual aids, communication tools, sensory supports, or staff training resources) to support neurodivergent patients during labour and birth? If so, please provide copies, links, or a brief description.

Answer:

I have been advised that we do not hold any policies in relation to this. As prr Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 formally I must advise that we do not hold this information.

I am sorry I cannot help 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

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Mainpoint  
102 West Port  
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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*



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.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

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