

Date 21/04/2026  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 11324

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Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – TOOTH EXTRACTION

I write in response to your request for information in relation to tooth extraction waits

Question:

- The length in time in weeks that adults have had to wait for a tooth extraction in a) 2024/25 and b) 2025/26.
- The length in time in weeks that children under 18 have had to wait for a tooth extraction in a) 2024/25 and b) 2025/26.

Answer:

Please see enclosed spreadsheet.

To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 5 or less has not been shown in the spreadsheet provided. 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).

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

Yours sincerely

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

Year	SPECIALTY	Type	PRIORITY	LOCAL_PROCEDURE	Patients	Average Wait (weeks)
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Other Oral Surgery	20	60
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Simple Extraction Of Tooth/ Teeth	53	94
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Surgical Removal Tooth/ Teeth	105	87.4
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Full Dental Clearance WL	5<	14
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Other Oral Surgery	14	4.5
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Simple Extraction Of Tooth/ Teeth	5<	45.1
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Surgical Removal Tooth/ Teeth	30	24
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Paediatric	Routine	Other Oral Surgery	5<	84.5
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Paediatric	Routine	Simple Extraction Of Tooth/ Teeth	7	88.1
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Paediatric	Routine	Surgical Removal Tooth/ Teeth	11	88.1
2024	Maxillofacial Surgery	Paediatric	Urgent	Surgical Removal Tooth/ Teeth	5<	8.2
2024	Oral Surgery - Dentistry	Adult	Routine	Dental Surgery (Minor)	75	57.6
2024	Oral Surgery - Dentistry	Adult	Urgent	Dental Surgery (Minor)	11	9.3
2024	Oral Surgery - Dentistry	Paediatric	Routine	Dental Surgery (Minor)	6	47.7
2024	Paediatric Dentistry	Paediatric	Routine	Dental Surgery (Minor)	5<	57.1
2024	Paediatric Dentistry	Paediatric	Routine	Paediatric Dental Surgery (Minor)	426	45.8
2024	Paediatric Dentistry	Paediatric	Urgent	Paediatric Dental Surgery (Minor)	138	7.7
2024	Special Care Dentistry	Adult	Routine	Dental Surgery (Minor)	19	32.5
2024	Special Care Dentistry	Adult	Urgent	Dental Surgery (Minor)	9	10.6
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Coronectomy WL	5<	67.3
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Extraction of Multiple Teeth	5<	97.1
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Extraction of retained root of tooth WL	5<	93.8
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Full Dental Clearance WL	5<	77.8
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Other Oral Surgery	18	77.4
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Other specified simple extraction of tooth WL	6	90.4
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Simple Extraction Of Tooth/ Teeth	13	86.7
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Simple Extraction of Tooth	5<	94.4
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Surgical Removal Tooth/ Teeth	77	71.7
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Surgical removal of impacted tooth WL	5<	83.6
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Surgical removal of impacted wisdom tooth WL	81	75.4
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Surgical removal of tooth WL	5<	101.8
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Routine	Unspecified simple extraction of tooth WL	5<	76.4
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Extraction Of Multiple Teeth Nec	5<	6.4
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Extraction of retained root of tooth WL	5<	5.3
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Full Dental Clearance WL	5<	23.2
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Other Oral Surgery	5<	45.8
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Other specified simple extraction of tooth WL	5<	0.9
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Simple Extraction Of Tooth/ Teeth	5<	41.8
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Surgery to Tongue / Palate	5<	11.9
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Surgery/ Injection To T M J	5<	6.2
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Surgical Removal Tooth/ Teeth	16	19
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Surgical removal of impacted tooth WL	<5	29
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Adult	Urgent	Surgical removal of impacted wisdom tooth WL	16	10.7
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Paediatric	Routine	Other Oral Surgery	5<	38.1
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Paediatric	Routine	Simple Extraction Of Tooth/ Teeth	5<	68.1
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Paediatric	Routine	Surgical Removal Tooth/ Teeth	7	52.9
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Paediatric	Urgent	Other Oral Surgery	5<	13
2025	Maxillofacial Surgery	Paediatric	Urgent	Other specified simple extraction of tooth WL	5<	8.1
2025	Oral Surgery - Dentistry	Adult	Routine	Dental Surgery (Minor)	79	33.1
2025	Oral Surgery - Dentistry	Adult	Urgent	Dental Surgery (Minor)	8	8.5
2025	Oral Surgery - Dentistry	Paediatric	Routine	Dental Surgery (Minor)	12	33.2
2025	Oral Surgery - Dentistry	Paediatric	Urgent	Dental Surgery (Minor)	5<	8.7
2025	Paediatric Dentistry	Paediatric	Routine	Paediatric Dental Surgery (Inter)	5<	30.4
2025	Paediatric Dentistry	Paediatric	Routine	Paediatric Dental Surgery (Minor)	593	44.3
2025	Paediatric Dentistry	Paediatric	Urgent	Paediatric Dental Surgery (Minor)	138	7
2025	Special Care Dentistry	Adult	Routine	Dental Surgery (Minor)	10	36.6
2025	Special Care Dentistry	Adult	Urgent	Dental Surgery (Minor)	5<	1.3