

Date 20/04/2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11351

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
Extension 35687
Direct Line 0131 465 5687
loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot
richard.mutch@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – MISCONDUCT

I write in response to your request for information in relation to staff misconduct.

Question:

- Beginning from January 1, 2020 until March 25, 2026 I am requesting a breakdown of staff members at four NHS Lothian hospitals who have been suspended, sanctioned, or struck off for sexual misconduct. The four hospitals are the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, the Western General Hospital, the Royal Edinburgh, and the Royal Hospital for Children & Young People. Please provide:
 - The date the sanction went into effect
 - The general job title for the staff member (including but not limited to nurse, doctor, technician, administrative assistant, etc)
 - Whether the misconduct was perpetrated against another member of staff, a patient, or a member of the public who was visiting the hospital
 - For those members of staff who were suspended/sanctioned, please note whether they have returned to work at NHS Lothian as of March 25, 2026

Answer:

I am advised that unfortunately we are unable to provide this information. Whilst we are able to report on numbers of staff that have received a disciplinary sanction or have been dismissed, our case management system does not allow us to report on the allegation that resulted in the sanction/dismissal. So for that reason we cannot provide details on staff who have been suspended, sanctioned, or dismissed for sexual misconduct.

Under the Freedom of Information Act NHS Lothian is not required to create new records to enable it to respond to your enquiry. This information is not collated or held in aggregate form and it would be necessary to review all case files relating to patients over the period you have requested to assemble the information you seek. Even if NHS Lothian did this – and there would be significant cost implications in doing so – it would be unable to respond in full to your request. The information requested is therefore exempt under section 12.1 – Cost.

Headquarters
Mainpoint
102 West Port
Edinburgh EH3 9DN

Chair Professor John Connaghan CBE
Chief Executive Professor Caroline Hiscox
*Lothian NHS Board is the common
name of Lothian Health Board*



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 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