

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – CANCELLED ELECTIVE OPERATIONS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to cancelled elective operations.

Question:

- I was looking to make an FOI request regarding the number of elective operations cancelled at Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh due to transplant activity taking priority with the date raging from both 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.
- After clarification - provide priority/emergence cases, which have caused a cancellation.

Answer:

Year	Cases
2024/25	91 cases cancelled due to emergency or priority procedure
2025/26	100 cases cancelled due to intervention of emergency/priority case

I am advised we do not record 'cancelled due to transplant activity' as a reason for cancellation. This would instead be recorded as cancelled due to intervention of 'emergency' or 'priority' case. There are a limited number of theatres that would be in scope for cancellation due to transplant activity, therefore the following cancellation figures for these theatres are highly likely to be elective cases cancelled due to transplant activity and recorded as intervention of emergency./priority case, but it is important to note that there could be a small number within this that were cancelled due to non-transplant emergency or priority cases.

Question:

- A further request is NHS Lothians estimated running costs to run a single operating theatre for a 24 hour period that is considered fully staffed.

Answer:

Please note that estimates are not covered under FOIS(A) only recorded accurate information. NHS Lothian does not capture an estimated 24hour theatre cost, however The Cost Book has

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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





cost per hour for theatres. The R140(X) has theatre costs – the R140 is under the hospital breakdown in the file listing and the R140X is the same at board level under the board breakdown in the file listing section.

[Files listing for 2023 to 2024 - Scottish health service costs - summary for financial year 2023 to 2024 - Scottish health service costs - Publications - Public Health Scotland](#)

This reflects 2023/24 costs, the most recent published data. 2024/25 will be published later this year.

This information is exempt under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information otherwise accessible

(1) Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under section 1(1) is exempt information.

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

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
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Cc: Chief Executive