

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – SUICIDE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to suicide.

Question:

1. How many people have completed suicide while in mental health wards? I am looking for these figures for 2023, 2024 and 2025.

Answer:

There were five or fewer in the years requested.

Question:

2. How many of these deaths have been subject to an investigation? Please categorise these by type ie SAER, suicide review or other type of investigation.

Answer:

There were five or fewer.

Question:

3. How many people have completed suicide within 24 hours of being in contact with mental health services ? I am also looking for these figures for 2023, 2024 and 2025.

Answer:

This is not recorded out with the individual records.

Question:

4. How many of these deaths have been subject to an investigation? Please categorise these by type ie SAER, suicide review or other type of investigation.

Answer:

There were five or fewer SAE Reviews.



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).

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
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive