

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – SOCIAL RISK FACTORS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Maternity Services and social risk factors.

Question:

1. Does your maternity service routinely collect and record data relating to social risk, however this may be termed locally (e.g. vulnerability, complex social factors, social needs)? (yes/no)
2. If yes to Q1: approximately how many women using your maternity services were identified as having at least one social risk factor in the financial year 2024/25, where such data are routinely recorded? If an exact figure is not readily available, an estimate or the most recent available figure would be helpful.

Answer:

I am advised that in order to answer this part of your request we need very specific guidance on what you are considering complex social factors in order to accurately reply. If you can provide further detail we can provide information.

Question:

3. Does your maternity service currently use the MatDAT (Maternity Disadvantage Assessment Tool), or any other standardised tool, to assess social risk in pregnancy/postnatally? (yes/no; if yes, please specify) -

Answer:

No.

Question:

4. At which points during maternity care are social risk assessments routinely completed or reviewed? (e.g. booking appointment, 28 weeks, admission for birth, postnatal care)

Answer:

Booking Appointment, and although not officially repeated but there are dynamic ongoing risk assessments based on clinical assessment

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

Question:

5. Which Electronic Patient Record (EPR) system is primarily used in your maternity service to document social risk? (e.g. Badgernet, K2, EPIC)

Answer:

This data is recorded in the TRAK Maternity Module.

I am sorry I cannot help further with your request at this time, but please come back to us with more detail and we will address.

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