

Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to occupational therapists in NHS Lothian.

### Question:

1. Please provide the names, contact numbers/email of all members and positions of all OT team members (occupational therapist) that works in the Western General Hospital and the Royal Infirmary (Edinburgh).

### Answer:

We are not able to provide names and contact details of individual members of staff below senior management level. This is personal information and is exempt under section 38 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 as to provide it would breach the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018.

### Question:

2. Since the year 2026, please provide what percentage of patients been have been signed off as appropriate by an OT (occupational therapist) for discharge from hospital but the patient has subsequently returned to hospital in the next 14 days.
3. Please also break down the above request by the OT individual who 'signed' off the hospital discharge.

### Answer:

Patients are not signed off as fit for discharge solely by an occupational therapist. This decision is made by the multi-disciplinary team with occupational therapist input where appropriate.

Information about decisions to discharge patients is not collected centrally. This information will be held in individual patient records, but in order to provide the information you request it would be necessary to review each patient record over the period you have specified, requiring significant resources. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, NHS Lothian is not required to respond to your request if the resources required to do so equate to more than £600 in cost.

I am sorry I cannot help more 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 <https://www.foi.scot/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 reviewer at the address at the top 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>

Yours sincerely

**ALISON MACDONALD**  
**Executive Director of Nursing Midwifery and AHPs**  
Cc: Chief Executive