

Date 06/07/2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11535

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – MENTAL HEALTH CAPACITY

I write in response to your request for information in relation to mental health capacity.

Question:

- How many times have mental health hospitals in your health board been running at 100% occupancy, broken down by month in each of the last three calendar years, including the most up to date data you have for this year?

Answer:

Between January 2023 and May 2026, bed occupancy at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital exceeded 100% in 25 months.

	Royal Edinburgh Hospital % occupied bed days
2023-01	96.8%
2023-02	97.8%
2023-03	97.5%
2023-04	97.4%
2023-05	100.8%
2023-06	99.6%
2023-07	97.1%
2023-08	97.4%
2023-09	97.5%
2023-10	97.4%
2023-11	98.3%
2023-12	98.2%
2024-01	100.4%

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*

2024-02	99.7%
2024-03	98.6%
2024-04	99.6%
2024-05	100.4%
2024-06	98.8%
2024-07	100.3%
2024-08	99.6%
2024-09	101.1%
2024-10	102.8%
2024-11	102.9%
2024-12	102.0%
2025-01	105.2%
2025-02	107.4%
2025-03	108.7%
2025-04	104.5%
2025-05	103.8%
2025-06	105.0%
2025-07	105.0%
2025-08	104.2%
2025-09	103.6%
2025-10	103.7%
2025-11	104.5%
2025-12	101.4%
2026-01	101.8%
2026-02	102.3%
2026-03	102.2%
2026-04	102.2%
2026-05	103.4%

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

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive