

Date: 14/07/2026
Our Ref: 11580
Enquiries to loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – SPECIALTY DOCTOR CONTRACTS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to specialty doctor contracts in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. How many doctors are on a SAS contract, broken down by medical specialty?
2. How many are doctors are on specialist doctor contracts, broken down by medical specialty?
3. How many doctors are on specialty doctor contracts, broken down by medical specialty?
4. How many doctors are on associate specialists contracts, broken down by medical specialty?

Answer:

The information you have requested is detailed in the table below:

Specialty doctors, NHS Lothian				
Medical Specialty	Associate Specialist	Specialist Doctor	Specialty Doctor	Total SAS contracts
Accident and Emergency	1		18	19
Anaesthetics	2	2	4	8
Bacteriology			2	2
Cardiac Surgery			4	4
Cardiology			1	1
Community Health	2	1		3
Community / Infectious Diseases		1	1	2
Community Medicine			3	3
Dental Surgery			4	4
Dentistry	1		4	5
Dermatology		2	2	4
Endocrinology / Diabetes			3	3
Epidemiology of Cancer			1	1
Family Planning	1		5	6

Specialty doctors, NHS Lothian				
Medical Specialty	Associate Specialist	Specialist Doctor	Specialty Doctor	Total SAS contracts
Gastroenterology		1		1
General Medicine			10	10
General Surgery	1		4	5
Geriatrics	5		14	19
GU Medicine	1		3	4
Gynaecology and Obstetrics	1		7	8
Gynaecology			3	3
Haematology	1		1	2
Locum			1	1
Maxillofacial			2	2
Nephrology			1	1
Neurosurgery			5	5
Obstetrics			1	1
Oncology	1	1	6	8
Ophthalmology	2		1	3
Orthodontics			1	1
Paediatrics General	1		2	3
Paediatrics Medical			6	6
Paediatrics Surgery			7	7
Palliative Medicine			1	1
Pathology			3	3
Plastic Surgery			1	1
Psychology Mental Illness	2	2	20	24
Psychology Mental Subnorm			3	3
Psychiatry Child		1	10	11
Psychiatry Forensic			3	3
Psychiatry of Old Age			2	2
Rehabilitation / Physical Medicine			1	1
Respiratory / Chest Diseases			3	3
Rheumatology			2	2
Urology			1	1
Total	22	11	177	210

Question:

5. How many doctors are on a staff grade contract, broken down by medical specialty?

Answer:

No staff coded as staff grade are currently in post.

Question:

6. How many doctors are employed in the Trust that are not in a formal training programme or on a SAS or consultant contract, broken down by medical specialty?

Answer:

This information is available on the TURAS website at the following link:
<https://turasdata.nes.nhs.scot/data-and-reports/official-workforce-statistics/all-official-statistics-publications/02-june-2026-workforce/dashboards/nhs-scotland-workforce/?pageid=16255>

Instructions:

Go to the employment over time report on the left side
Select board – expand region - NHS Lothian
Select job family - Medical & Dental - expand to Medical Specialty
Select Band/grade – expand Medical Grade - select:
- Resident Doctors: Resident doctor (no NTN)
- Other: Clinical Fellow, General Practitioner, Other
Select WTE/Headcount

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 <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
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Cc: Chief Executive