

Date 22 July 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11624

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – LEARNING DISABILITIES PLACEMENTS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to learning disabilities placements.

Question:

- Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information regarding services for adults with learning disabilities and/or autism. Where possible, please kindly include responses on the attached Excel spreadsheet.

- Please could you supply the name, email address and telephone number of the commissioner with responsibility for learning disabilities placements?

For questions 2 to 4, please supply this information as a snapshot at the end of the year for the financial year 2025/26 and the most up to date snapshot available for 2026/27.

- Please provide the total number of adults aged 18-64 with learning disabilities and/or autism funded by the TRUST in residential care.
- Of the total number of adults aged 18-64 with learning disabilities and/or autism funded by the Trust in residential care (q.2), please provide the number that are in 'in area' placements and the number that are in 'out of area' placements.
- Please provide the total number of adults aged 18-64 with learning disabilities and/or autism funded by the Trust in supported living.
- Please provide the Trust's total expenditure on residential care and supported living for adults aged 18-64 with learning disabilities and/or autism for the financial year 2025/26, and budgeted expenditure for 2026/27.
- Please provide the highest, lowest, and average weekly rate paid by the Trust for residential care placements for adults aged 18-64 with learning disabilities and/or autism for each of the financial years 2025/26 and 2026/27. If the Trust has weekly rate bands, please also provide these.
- Please provide the number of adults aged 18-64 with learning disabilities and/or autism funded by the Trust in residential care with fees per week of:
 - Less than £1,500
 - £1,500 to £2,999

- £3,000 to £4,999
- £5,000 or more

8. Please provide a list of providers used by the Trust to deliver long-term residential care to adults aged 18-64 with learning disabilities and/or autism. For each named provider, please provide both of the following for the same single month — the most recent full calendar month available (or, if a single month cannot be provided, the financial year 2025/26):
- a. the number of such adults funded by the Trust in long-term residential placements with that provider in that month; and
 - b. the Trust's total gross expenditure with that provider for that month, including all payments for these placements (e.g. any block/core hours).

Please use the same month for (a) and (b) and confirm which month, so the two figures are directly comparable.

9. Does the Trust consider there is sufficient local residential care provision to meet the needs of adults aged 18-64 with learning disabilities and/or autism who have a high level of complex needs, and which providers does the Trust mainly use for these placements? What are the occupancy levels locally?

Answer:

I am advised that the requested information is not held by NHS Lothian. As per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 formally I must advise that we do not hold this information.

You should contact the Local Authorities via the following:-

City of Edinburgh Council Central Freedom of Information Unit 3.1 Waverley Court 4 East Market Street Edinburgh EH8 8BG foi@edinburgh.gov.uk	East Lothian Council Corporate Resources, John Muir House, Haddington, EH41 3HA Department: Law and Licensing foi@eastlothian.gov.uk
Midlothian Council Customer Services Midlothian House Buccleuch Street Dalkeith Midlothian EH22 1DN foi@midlothian.gov.uk	West Lothian Council, Customer Services, Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, EH54 6FF customer.service@westlothian.gov.uk

I am sorry I cannot help 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