

Date 28 July 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11649

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
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Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – VIOLENCE AND AGRESSION

I write in response to your request for information in relation to violence and aggression.

Question:

- For the time period 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026 (or your nearest 12-month period), please provide the following:
- total number of violent incidents on your staff broken down by job title/category of worker

Answer:

We have provided data reported under the adverse event category of “**Violence/ aggression/ other unwanted behaviours**”. The table below details the number of Violence (Physical)” and “Aggression (Verbal)” adverse events (incidents) recorded against NHS Lothian staff for the period 01/04/2025 to 31/03/2026. The data is broken down by Job Role/Grade and shows how many of the adverse events (incidents) related to nurses, doctors, and others.

	2025/26
Administration/Clerical/reception staff	57
AHP	68
Clinical Photographer	≤5
Dental	8
Director	≤5
Doctor	21
Labs - Technical Staff (MTO/ATO)	≤5
Manager / Supervisor	20
Nurse / Midwife	1,733
Pharmacist	≤5
Phlebotomist	≤5
Physician Associate	≤5
Porter	≤5
Practitioner	≤5
Psychologist	7
Security Officer	≤5

To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 5 or less has not been shown in the table above. Since we do not have their consent to release this data from their records, the information is exempt under section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act i.e. to provide it would breach the Data Protection Act (2018).

Question:

2. a breakdown of the nature of the violent incident e.g., verbal, physical, threatening behaviour

Answer:

The table below details the number of Violence (Physical)" and "Aggression (Verbal)" adverse events (incidents) recorded against NHS Lothian staff for the period 01/04/2025 to 31/03/2026.

2025/26	
Physical Violence	1,382
Verbal Violence	550

Question:

3. how many violent incidents have been reported under RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences) Regulations, with a breakdown by job title/category of worker

Please could you break this information down into incidents involving female staff / male staff.

Violent incidents can include verbal abuse or threats including face to face; online and via telephone; physical attacks; threatening behaviour; racial abuse and sexual harassment/violence.

Answer:

The table below details the number of RIDDOR Violence (Physical)" and "Aggression (Verbal)" adverse events (incidents) recorded against NHS Lothian staff for the period 01/04/2025 to 31/03/2026. The data is broken down by Job Role/Grade and all relate to Nursing.

We cannot break this information down into adverse events (incidents) involving female staff / male staff as this information is not routinely collected on DATIX.

2025/26	
Nurse	36

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

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive