

Date 30 July 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11666

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – WAIT LIST REMOVAL

I write in response to your request for information in relation to removal from waiting lists.

Question:

1. The number of patients being removed from an NHS inpatient and day case treatment waiting list due to attending or being admitted to the private sector. I would like this information for the last 6 calendar years (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026).

Answer:

YEAR	PATIENTS REMOVED
2021	206
2022	453
2023	736
2024	711
2025	734
2026*	344

**Includes all adult inpatient and daycase waits who were removed from the waiting list due to 'treatment not currently required' and having remarks such as 'private care treatment', 'had surgery privately', 'done privately', 'gone private' etc between '01,Jan,2021' and '21,Jul,2026'*

**Please be aware that this relies on notes being written in the remarks field on TRAK and also that it has been written correctly.*

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