

Date 22 September 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11652

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – NEURODEVELOPMENTAL ASSESSMENT

I write in response to your request for information in relation to neurodevelopmental assessment.

Question:

- The number of neurodevelopmental assessments undertaken on adults by NHS Lothian per year since 2020

Answer:

Appointment calendar year	Assessments
2023	260
2024	894
2025	983
2026	540
We do not hold data prior to 2023.	

I am sorry we cannot help further 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

Data source

Data were extracted from the NHS Lothian oracle outpatient appointments data set (OP.APPOINTMENT_ANALYSIS_V).

Methodology

The analysis included outpatient appointments meeting all of the following criteria:

Results are presented by appointment calendar year.

Important caveats and limitations

The figures represent the number of arrived assessment appointments, not the number of completed assessments.

A single neurodevelopmental assessment may require multiple appointments. Therefore, the number of appointments should not be interpreted as the number of individuals assessed or the number of assessment episodes completed.

Appointments with statuses other than Arrived (for example, Did Not Attend, Cancelled, Transferred) are excluded.

As a result, these figures do not represent total demand, referrals, waiting list activity, or overall service capacity.

The analysis relies on service naming conventions recorded in the source system; any relevant activity not identifiable through the specified service descriptions may not be included.