

Date 10 September 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11777

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – LGBT HEALTH AND WELLBEING

I write in response to your request for information in relation to LGBT Health and Wellbeing.

Question:

1. The total amount of funding provided by NHS Lothian to LGBT Health and Wellbeing in each of the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26 to date. Of the above funding, any amounts specifically allocated to, or used to support, the “Queer Milk” group or any programme promoting or facilitating chestfeeding / induced lactation by biological males for the purpose of infant feeding.

Answer:

Table 1 summarises funding provided by NHS Lothian to LGBT Health and Wellbeing between 20/21- 25/26 financial years.

Table 1. Summary Funding provided by NHS Lothian to LGBT Health and Wellbeing			
LGBT organisation	Timeframe	Amount spent (totals)	Purpose
LGBT Health & Wellbeing	2025-2026	£158,500	Sexual health and wellbeing services for LGBT+ Adults (age 16+)
LGBT Health & Wellbeing	2024-2025	£158,500	Sexual health and wellbeing services for LGBT+ Adults (age 16+)
LGBT Health & Wellbeing	2023-2024	£158,500	Sexual health and wellbeing services for LGBT+ Adults (age 16+)
LGBT Health & Wellbeing	2022-2023	£158,500	Sexual health and wellbeing services for LGBT+ Adults (age 16+)
LGBT Health & Wellbeing	2021-2022	£158,500	Sexual health and wellbeing services for LGBT+ Adults (age 16+)
LGBT Health & Wellbeing	2020-2021	£158,500	Sexual health and wellbeing services for LGBT+ Adults (age 16+)

Queer Milk group is not funded under any NHS Lothian contracts. NHS Lothian does not have any contractual or service level agreements with LGBT Health and Wellbeing supporting breastfeeding, chest feeding or any other infant feeding.

Question:

2. Copies of any risk assessments, clinical evidence reviews, child impact assessments, or safeguarding assessments carried out by or for NHS Lothian in relation to supporting or funding male lactation / chestfeeding for infant feeding.

Answer:

There are no such documents which support or fund male lactation/chest feeding for infant feeding. As per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 formally I must advise that we do not hold this information.

Question:

3. Details of any contractual or service-level agreements between NHS Lothian and LGBT Health and Wellbeing that cover infant feeding, breastfeeding, or chestfeeding support, including any requirements relating to clinical standards or child safeguarding. Details of any assessment undertaken of how such funding or support complies with.

Answer:

NHS Lothian does not have any contractual or service level agreements with LGBT Health and Wellbeing supporting breastfeeding, chest feeding or any other infant feeding.

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