

Date 28 August 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11789

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – AQUATIC DISPLAYS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to aquatic displays.

Question:

- I would be grateful if you could provide the following information relating to aquariums and aquatic displays within your Trust.

1. Existing Aquariums

Please confirm whether the Trust currently owns or operates any ornamental aquarium(s) or aquatic displays.

If yes, please provide:

The number of aquariums currently in operation.

Their general location (e.g. reception, children's ward, outpatient department, waiting area).

The approximate year each aquarium was installed.

2. Installation Supplier

For each aquarium, please provide:

The company that supplied and/or installed the aquarium.

Whether the installation was procured via a tender or procurement framework or a direct award (and, if applicable, the name of the framework).

3. Maintenance

Please confirm:

Whether aquarium maintenance is carried out in-house or by an external contractor.

If externally maintained:

Name of the contractor.

Contract start date.

Contract expiry or renewal date.

Approximate annual contract value.

4. Future Projects

Please confirm whether the Trust currently has any plans, approved projects or budget allocations for new aquarium installations, replacements or refurbishments within the next 24 months.

5. Procurement

Please provide:

The department responsible for procuring aquarium installations and maintenance.

The job title of the person or team responsible.

6. Expenditure

Please provide, where available:

Total expenditure on aquarium installations over the previous five financial years.

Annual expenditure on aquarium maintenance for each of the previous five financial years.

7. Supporting Documentation

Please provide copies of any business cases, reports, evaluations or studies relating to the installation of aquariums, including any documents discussing patient wellbeing, staff wellbeing, visitor experience or therapeutic benefits.

Answer:

I am advised that there are no aquariums or aquatic displays within NHS Lothian sites.

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