

Date 24 August 2026  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 11794

Enquiries to Richard Mutch  
Extension 35687  
Direct Line 0131 465 5687  
[loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot](mailto:loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot)  
[richard.mutch@nhs.scot](mailto:richard.mutch@nhs.scot)

Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – HYPERTENSION & LIPID SERVICES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Hypertension & Lipid Services.

### Question:

- The links to the following guidelines below are shown on the Hypertension & Lipid Services landing page <https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/guidelines/hypertensionandlipidservices/>. However, they appear to be on an intranet system, rather than the publicly available one, I wonder if you would be kind enough to send me a copy of each?

<https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/approach-to-statin-associated-adverse-effects/>  
<https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/1-assessment/>  
<https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/faqs/>  
<https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/lipid-lowering-medication-in-specific-patient-groups/>  
<https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/lipids/>  
<https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/suspected-inherited-lipid-disorders-including-familial-hypercholesterolaemia/>

### Answer:

I am advised that there is work happening to update the lipid refhelp pages so these are draft pages and will be published publicly once finalised. Any pages which require a password are not yet "live". The following pages are currently in-use and reflect our current local guidance on lipids. They are publicly available although obviously intended for guiding local healthcare professionals:

<https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/guidelines/hypertensionandlipidservices/hyperlipidaemia/>  
<https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/guidelines/hypertensionandlipidservices/hypertriglyceridaemia/>

The intention is to remove the above pages within the next few months and replace them with new guidance. But we cannot share that guidance with you until it has been approved - hence the password protection.

This information is exempt under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002  
- Information otherwise accessible

(1) Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under section 1(1) is exempt information.

The information you have request is currently exempt under Section 27 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information intended for future publication

(1) Information is exempt information if-

(a) it is held with a view to its being published by-

(i) a Scottish public authority; or

(ii) any other person

at a date not later than twelve weeks after that on which the request for the information is made;

(b) when that request is made the information is already being held with that view; and

(c) it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information be withheld from disclosure until such date as is mentioned in paragraph (a).

Once approved the accounts can be accessed via the NHS Lothian website

I am sorry I cannot help further with your request at this time.

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](http://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