

Date 2 September 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11808

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – HYBRID CLOSED LOOP SYSTEM

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Hybrid Closed Loop system.

Question:

1. Current HCL Users

- The number of people with Type 1 diabetes currently using a Hybrid Closed Loop system funded by the NHS within your Health Board area.
- The number of people with Type 1 diabetes currently using a stand-alone pump funded by the NHS within your Health Board area.
- Please provide these figures separately for:
 - Children and young people (aged under 18 years); and
 - Adults (aged 18 years and over)
 - How many have been onboarded through national/local means

Answer:

<i>As at 10.08.2026</i>	Adults (aged over 18 years)	Children (aged under 18 years)
Hybrid Closed Loop	1741	399
Standalone	107	0
National Onboarding total	291	17
Local Onboarding total	1450	382

Question:

2. Waiting List for HCL

- The number of people with Type 1 diabetes who have been assessed as suitable for, eligible for, or approved for a Hybrid Closed Loop system but who are not yet receiving one.
- Please provide this figure separately for:
 - Children and young people (aged under 18 years); and
 - Adults (aged 18 years and over).
 - Please include priority vs non-priority
- The following details relating to waiting list for access to HCL systems, please provide:
 - The current number of people on the waiting list;

- The longest waiting time;
- When someone is put on the waiting list now, how long are they expected to wait
- What is your priority criteria

Answer:

<i>As at 10.08.2026</i>	Adults	Children
Number of people with Type 1 Diabetes who have been assessed as suitable for, eligible for, or approved for a Hybrid Closed Loop system but who are not yet receiving one	1,162	28
Total number of people on the waiting list	1,162	28
Longest waiting time*	200-215 weeks	30-40 weeks
Priority	91	28
Non-Priority	1,071	0

- Adult Services - The priority criteria for this financial year are
- Severe hypoglycaemia (with no clear avoidable precipitant)
 - Pregnancy / Pregnancy planning (currently in pregnancy planning and have attended a preconception appointment)
 - Recurrent DKA – greater than 1 in a year
 - Paediatric Service
- All children are prioritised for HCL with additional priority given to the under 5s

*We have provided a range rather than specific wait. To provide the longest wait would be highly identifiable and is therefore exempt under Section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 – personal information

Question:

3. Funding and Implementation

- Following the Cabinet Secretary's letter to NHS Board Chief Executives, sent 29th May 2026 regarding funding for Hybrid Closed Loop system consumables and the incorporation of closed loop funding into NHS Board baselines for 2026/27, please provide:
 - a. The current number of HCL systems that you intend to initiate in 2026/7
 - b. How does this compare with 2025/6 and 2024/5
 - c. For 2026/27, what is estimated to be the proportion of total pump starts that will be 'non-priority' patients
 - d. Does the Health Board have a strategic plan to determine the number of HCL starts over the next 5 years

Answer:

a.	NHS Lothian has agreed funding for 110 closed loops in adult services and 44 in Paediatric services.
b.	This represents a significant reduction in Lothian's HCL onboarding capacity when compared with FY 2025/26 and FY 2024/25: ▪ FY 2024-25: ▪ Adult Onboarding: 215 ▪ Paediatric Onboarding: 78 ▪ FY 2025-26: ▪ Adult Onboarding: 293 ▪ Paediatric Onboarding: 70
c.	• In adult services it is anticipated that only patients meeting the priority criteria will be started on a closed loop system • In Paediatric services all children are priority
d.	• NHS Lothian do not currently have a strategic plan to determine the number of H CL starts in the next 5 years. The next steps in relation to this will be determined following the Scottish Governments rapid value case on expansion of access to hybrid closed loop system technology from the Centre for Sustainable Delivery.

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.nhslotian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD

Executive Director, Nursing

Cc: Chief Executive