

Date: 21/09/2026
Our Ref: 11860
Enquiries to loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to workforce management software in NHS Lothian.

Question:

I would like to request information on software providers for these workforce management functions: agency for nurses; agency for allied health professionals; agency for medics; job planning for allied health professionals.

For each of these, could you please provide: the name of the current provider; the contract start and end dates, including any extension options; the annual contract spend; the number of licences contracted/purchased and count of licences used.

Answer:

RL Datix (previously known as Allocate) software is used for bank and agency allied health professionals, nursing and medical staff.

The contract is from 18 November 2021 to 18 November 2028 with an option to extend for a further 3 years after the initial term.

This is a national contract, and the cost for NHS Lothian for 2026/27 is £535,535. This is the total price for the package which includes Optima (BankStaff, SafeCare HealthRoster), e-job plan, eRota, Medics on Duty and Activity Manager.

The contract does not specify a number of licences, these are available for all NHS Lothian staff, bank and agency workers.

NHS Lothian does not currently have a provider for job planning for Allied Health Professionals.

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 <https://www.foi.scot/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 reviewer at the address at the top 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>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director of Nursing Midwifery and AHPs
Cc: Chief Executive