Lothian NHS Board

NHS Lothian Headquarters
Waverley Court
4 East Market Street
Edinburgh
EH8 8BG
www.nhslothian.scot

Date 20 October 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11953

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – RIE PARKING

I write in response to your request for information in relation to car parking at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

Question:

- I'm getting in touch regarding new figures showing that more than £10m has been paid to the private operator of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh (RIE) to keep parking at the hospital free.

  Figures released by NHS Lothian under freedom of information laws show the cost of the keeping the car park free of charge, including operational costs, is £400,000 a quarter.

  Could I please see these figures?

Answer:

Payments made to Consort as below:

Financial Year	£	Detail
2021/22	£800,000	2 x Quarters covering Jul 2021 to Dec 2021
2022/23	£2,000,000	5 x Quarters covering Jan 2022 to Mar 2023
2023/24	£800,000	2 x Quarters covering Apr 2023 to Sept 2023
2024/25	£2,000,000	5 x Quarters covering Oct 2023 to Dec 2024
2025/26	£1,600,000	4 x Quarters covering Jan 2025 to Dec 2025
2026 (Apr – Oct only)	£800,000	2 x Quarters covering Jan 2026 to Jun 2026
Net Total	**£8,000,000**	**Total 20 Quarters @ £400,000 each**
VAT	**£1,600,000**	**Total 20 Quarters @ £80,000 each**
Total	**£9,600,000**	
Please note that additional funding is provided for this by the Scottish Government in line with their policy that hospital parking should be free to users.		

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.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive