Lothian NHS Board

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Edinburgh
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www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk

Date: 19/11/2026
Our Ref: 12125
Enquiries to loth.freedomofinfomation@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – PATIENT TRANSPORT ASSESSMENT

I write in response to your request for information in relation to patient transport assessment in NHS Lothian.

Question:

> Since 2021, what assessments have been made of whether the transport and accommodation provision paid for by the health board and used by patients and their families are more likely to belong to groups that face difficulties or deprivation? For example, an assessment of provision based on disability status, working status, SIMD, income level, etc. If such assessments exist, please include these in the response to this query.

Answer:

> No assessment is made on whether patients and families provided with transport and accommodation are more likely to belong to groups of deprivation. The applications must be in line with the Terms and Conditions stipulated by the Scottish Government.

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.nhslothian.scot/FOI

Yours sincerely

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