

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date 23 July 2026
Your Ref FOI-2026-3436
Our Ref FOI-2026-3436

Enquiries to [REDACTED]
Email psd.foi@nhs.scot

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information Reference FOI-2026-3436

I refer to your Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) request that we received on 23 July 2026 requesting the following information:

1. **What was your total histopathology department case volume for in each of the two most recent completed financial years (FY24/25 and FY25/26) and the % of each which was digital? Please provide the number of final cases (as opposed to slides, blocks or specimens).**
2. **Of that volume, how many cases were reported in-house versus outsourced to an external provider in each year, and which external provider(s) were used?**
3. **For outsourced histopathology work, please break down volume and spend according to whether the provider performed the full laboratory process as well as reporting (wet and report), or provided reporting only with the Trust performing all laboratory processing (report only).**
4. **For each provider used, please confirm the method of case transfer (glass slide delivery or digital transfer).**
5. **For each provider used, please confirm the method of report delivery (email/PDF, secure reporter access to local pathology system, separate provider portal, electronic automation into local pathology system).**
6. **What percentage of histopathology cases were reported within 7, 10 and 14 calendar days of receipt over the most recent 12-month period (measured against Royal College of Pathologists key performance indicators)?**
7. **For outsourced histopathology work, what proportion (by case volume) was sent to each provider as physical glass slides versus as digital whole-slide images?**

Chair Mr Keith Redpath
Chief Executive Professor Karen Reid

8. **What was the total spend on outsourced histopathology reporting in each of the two most recent completed financial years, broken down by provider?**
9. **Does the Trust use any insourcing arrangement (a third-party providing reporting or laboratory capacity using the Trust's own facilities or systems)? If so, please state the provider(s), approximate volume, and spend.**
10. **What percentage of the Trust's in-house histopathology reporting is currently reported digitally? Please also state the digital pathology deployment status.**
11. **As at 20 July 2026, and expressed in whole-time equivalents (WTE), what is the histopathology reporting workforce (including funded establishment, filled posts, vacancies, and locum or agency cover) for consultant histopathologists?**
12. **For any current outsourced histopathology reporting contract(s): the start and end dates, extension or renewal options, contract value, and the procurement route or framework used.**

After a search of our records Public Services Delivery Scotland (PSD Scotland) has applied the [FOISA Section 17 exemption for "Information not held"](#) as PSD Scotland does not hold the information that you have requested.

It is important to note that PSD Scotland do not have any hospitals under its control and do not have a histopathology department.

In order to obtain the information that you have requested from the wider NHSScotland Health Boards who have hospitals under their control we suggest that you contact each of these Health Boards directly using the email addresses listed below, as under the terms of FOISA we are unable to transfer this request on your behalf.

NHS Ayrshire & Arran	foi@aaaht.scot.nhs.uk
NHS Borders	foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk
NHS Dumfries & Galloway	dg.feedback2@nhs.scot
NHS Fife	fife.foirequestfife@nhs.scot
NHS Forth Valley	fv.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot
NHS Grampian	gram.foi@nhs.scot
NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	foi@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
NHS Highland	nhsh.foirequestshighland@nhs.scot
NHS Lanarkshire	foi@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk
NHS Lothian	loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot
NHS Orkney	ORK.FOIrequests@nhs.scot
NHS Shetland	shet.foi@nhs.scot
NHS Tayside	tay.foisa@nhs.scot
NHS Western Isles	wi.foi-requests@nhs.scot
NHS Golden Jubilee	FOI@nwtc.scot.nhs.uk

I hope that you will find this response helpful to you and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me using the email address psd.foi@nhs.scot

If you are unhappy with any aspect of how we have dealt with your request, you can make representations to us asking us to review the handling of your request. Please write to the Associate Director Corporate Governance using the email address psd.foi@nhs.scot within 40 working days of the date of this correspondence.

If after a review you are still unhappy, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at Kinburn Castle, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, or via their [online Appeal form](#).

Yours sincerely,

