

[REDACTED]

Date: 04 September 2026  
Our Ref: FOI2026-3453  
Enquiries to: Freedom of Information  
Email: [psd.foi@nhs.scot](mailto:psd.foi@nhs.scot)

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information Reference: FOI2026-3453**

Thank you for your information request received on 13 August 2026 by Public Services Delivery Scotland (PSD Scotland).

From 01 April 2026, NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) joined to form Public Services Delivery Scotland (PSD Scotland), enabling transformation in health, social care, and the wider public sector. This means your Freedom of Information request is now being responded to by PSD Scotland.

Your request:

*I would like to request anonymised information regarding allocation to Scottish Foundation Programme groups for the August 2026 intake.*

*In particular, for each West Region Foundation Programme group (W01–W39), could you please provide, if possible:*

- 1. The number of available places in the group.*
- 2. The number of applicants who ranked that group as their first preference.*
- 3. The number of applicants ultimately allocated to that group.*
- 4. The range of PIA ranks of applicants allocated to each group (for example, the highest and lowest PIA rank), or equivalent anonymised information showing the PIA ranking required to obtain each group.*

*If available, I would also be interested in equivalent preference/allocation information for the individual programmes within each West group.*

I wish to advise under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA), that PSD Scotland can provide a partial response to your request, as detailed below.

**1. The number of available placed in the group**

**3. The number of applicants ultimately allocated to that group.**

The information you have requested for the above two questions has been provided in attached: FOI2026-3453 Annex A.

**2. The number of applicants who ranked that group as their first preference.**

Some of this information is not readily available. To establish how many applicants ranked each group named within your request as first choice would require the individual review of over 1000 applicant records. Whilst our aim is to provide information whenever possible, in this instance the costs of locating, retrieving and providing the information requested within these questions would exceed the upper cost limit of £600. This would take in excess of 40 hours; therefore this information is exempt under Section 12 of the FOISA – Excessive Cost.

Information on how many applicants who were successful in gaining their first choice is readily available and has been provided in attached: FOI2026-3453 Annex A. Under Section 38(1)(b) of the FOISA 2002, data suppression has been applied where the value is less than, or equal to, five. Secondary suppression has also been applied, as denoted by an asterisk symbol.

**4. The range of PIA ranks of applicants allocated to each group (for example, the highest and lowest PIA rank), or equivalent anonymised information showing their PIA ranking required to obtain each group.**

**If available, I would also be interested in equivalent preference/allocation information for the individual programmes within each West group.**

Under Section 17 of the FOISA, Preference Informed Allocated (PIA) rankings are not held by PSD Scotland.

These are held centrally by the UK Foundation Programme Office (UKFPO). Details on how to request information from UKFPO are available via the following link: [UK Foundation Programme - UK Foundation Programme](#)

If you are dissatisfied with this reply under the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, you should contact us again in writing or by email within 40 days of receipt of this response to request an internal review.

If you remain unhappy with the outcome of that internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision within six months of receiving our response. For further information, please visit the Scottish Information Commissioner's [website](#).

Yours sincerely



Enclosure: FOI2026-3453 Annex A.pdf