

Date 28 September 2026
Your Ref FOI-2026-3474
Our Ref FOI-2026-3474

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

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Reference FOI-2026-3474

I refer to your Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) request that we received on 4 September 2026 requesting the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I request the following information held by NHS National Services Scotland, including records held by the Central Legal Office and under the Clinical Negligence and Other Risks Indemnity Scheme (CNORIS), in respect of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and its predecessor bodies. I have made a parallel request to NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde; I am asking NSS separately because I understand central records may extend further back or be more complete.

I am not asking for the identity of any claimant or for any personal data. Where a figure would identify an individual, please aggregate or provide a range.

PART 1 - CLAIMS FROM 1 APRIL 2006 TO DATE

For each financial year from 2006/07 to 2026/27 to date, please provide:

- 1. The number of personal injury or fatal claims notified to CNORIS or handled by the Central Legal Office on behalf of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde alleging exposure to asbestos on Board premises or in the course of employment with the Board. Please include claims by current and former staff, agency and bank workers, contractors, patients and visitors.**
- 2. Of those claims, the number that (a) were settled with payment, (b) proceeded to proof or decree, (c) were rejected, abandoned or withdrawn, and (d) remain open.**
- 3. The number in which liability was admitted, in whole or in part.**
- 4. The total sums paid in damages and in legal costs, respectively, for these claims.**

Chair Mr Keith Redpath
Chief Executive Professor Karen Reid

5. Where the site of alleged exposure is recorded, the number of claims relating to each of the following sites:
- Canniesburn Hospital
 - Southern General Hospital (including the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital site)
 - Duntocher Hospital
 - Inverclyde Royal Hospital
6. The number of claims relating to each of the following conditions, where recorded: mesothelioma; asbestos-related lung cancer; asbestosis; pleural thickening; pleural plaques.

PART 2 - CLAIMS BEFORE 1 APRIL 2006

Please also provide any information held, in whatever form, on asbestos-related claims made before 1 April 2006 against Greater Glasgow Health Board, Argyll and Clyde Health Board, or any NHS Trust that managed the four sites named above (including South Glasgow University Hospitals NHS Trust and its predecessors, North Glasgow University Hospitals NHS Trust, and Inverclyde Royal NHS Trust).

I recognise these records may be less complete. Please state what records exist, the period they cover, and, so far as they show, the number of claims, the number settled or decided, the sums paid, and any relating to the four named sites.

If records for any part of this period have been destroyed, please confirm when, and under what retention policy.

PART 3 - SITE SEARCH

Separately from the date-based questions above, please search the Central Legal Office and CNORIS claims records for the four site names listed in question 5, and provide the number of asbestos-related claims returned for each, regardless of date.

PART 4 - COURT FINDINGS

Please confirm whether NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde or any predecessor body has ever been found liable by a court, or has settled after proof, in respect of asbestos exposure at any of the four named sites, and if so the year and the court.

It is important to note that from 1 April 2026, NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) and NHS Education for Scotland (NES) joined to form Public Services Delivery Scotland (PSD Scotland), enabling transformation in health, social care, and the wider public sector. More information regarding PSD Scotland can be found at the following URL:

[Public Services Delivery Scotland \(PSD Scotland\)](#)

After a search of our electronic and paper records, including those previously held by legacy organisations NSS and NES, I can confirm that PSD Scotland holds the following information:

Please find attached the spreadsheet entitled “2026-3474 Response Information Spreadsheet.”

Please note that where the figure is less than 5, we have taken the decision to withhold the specific number of cases due to the risk of identifying data being released. You will see that this relates to your questions Part 1 (1 and 6), and Part 2. The Information Commissioners Office states that public authorities responding to requests for numbers must determine whether members of the public would be able to identify individuals from statistical figures if they are disclosed. It is our consideration that given the specific geographical breakdown, there is a more significant chance that disclosure would lead to individuals being identified. This information is therefore exempt from release under [Section 38\(1\)\(b\) of the Freedom of Information \(Scotland\) Act 2002 in respect of personal data of a third party](#).

In relation to your question Part 1 (3), we have provided you with the information from 2023/2024 to present. We no longer hold the information sought for files dated 2006/2007 – 2016/2017 as the retention period for these files is 10 years, in line with the Health and Social Care Records Management Code of Practice.

We are unable to immediately provide the figures for files dated 2017/2018 – 2022/2023 as the previous filing system was ported to our current filing system and the scope of admitted liability is not a retained reportable record. This is therefore not available in the format requested and as such CLO are unable to present the figures of admitted liability for this time period without retrieving the file and reviewing this in its entirety. To allow us to provide you with the information, we would be required to review all relevant cases within the time period to report on the admission of any liability. The volume of this data is significantly larger than a standard data set, and in order to assess the information held it would require a substantial amount of staff time to review each document within the identified files to ascertain the information requested within the scope of the request. In light of this, we are applying an exemption under [Section 12\(1\) of FOISA as the cost of collating this information for review exceeds the cost limit](#), for Part 1 (3) of this request.

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,

