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Scotland

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NHS SCOTLAND

[redacted]

Date 18 November 2026
Your Ref FOI-2026-3575
Our Ref FOI-2026-3575

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

Dear [redacted]

Freedom of Information Reference FOI-2026-3575

I refer to your Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) request that we received on 11 November 2026 requesting the following information:

Gender re-assignment Mastectomy.

1. **How many patients from Scotland have been approved for gender re-assignment mastectomy at the ten English designated centres for surgery. I would like the overall number for the years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026.**

2. **Presuming that all the above approved patients were female, how many sex at birth males were referred for other surgery in England??**

3. **How many cases of gender re-assignment mastectomy were carried out in the private sector in Scotland in the years outlined above.**

This was then clarified on 12 November 2026 in relation to question 2 which should refer to male to female gender re-assignment surgery.

After a search of our electronic and paper records, I can confirm that Public Services Delivery (PSD) Scotland holds the following information:

1. **How many patients from Scotland have been approved for gender re-assignment mastectomy at the ten English designated centres for surgery. I would like the overall number for the years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026.**

YEAR	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
NUMBER OF PATIENTS APPROVED	116	137	100	124	120	59

The surgery which is commissioned is mastectomy and related chest reconstruction for individuals who were assigned as female at birth.

Chair Mr Keith Redpath
Chief Executive Professor Karen Reid

2. **Presuming that all the above approved patients were female, how many sex at birth males were referred for other surgery in England?**

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
NUMBER OF PATIENTS APPROVED	55	27	38	42	51	48

Within the scope of the nationally commissioned and funded treatment pathway is only genital reconstruction surgery. Other surgical interventions such as breast augmentation surgery are not funded as part of this contract and if further information is required in relation to other NHS funded surgeries this information may be available from Health Boards using the following email addresses, as due to 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.infogov-wihb@nhs.scot

3. **How many cases of gender re-assignment mastectomy were carried out in the private sector in Scotland in the years outlined above.**

Under Section 17 of FOISA for "Information not held" PSD Scotland does not hold the information requested. PSD Scotland does not commission or fund patient referrals to private sector providers in Scotland for gender reassignment mastectomy and, consequently, does not hold records of the number of such procedures carried out in the private sector in Scotland during the specified period.

This information is not routinely available from Gender Identity Clinics as they will have no oversight or knowledge if a patient has chosen to have this surgery undertaken privately.

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,

