



Date: 12 March 2024
Our ref: K: FOI/Ref: 2024-000092
Email: nss.pcf-foi@nhs.scot

Freedom of Information Reference: FOI-2024-000092 – Organ donation

I refer to your freedom of information request that we received on 21 February 2024 requesting the following information.

1. **A full copy of the algorithm(s) used to allocate organs in Scotland, as described in this BBC article regarding Kidneys: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-30060301#:~:text=Kidneys%20are%20allocated%20to%20individual%20patients%20on%20the%20waiting%20list%20using%20a%20complex%20computer%20algorithm>**
2. **Any documentation you hold, relating the function of the aforementioned algorithm (e.g. explaining how to interact with it, how it works, what it prioritises, what its logic is and so on).**

We have now completed the search of our records and can provide you with the following information:

Under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Scotland Act, 2002 (FOISA) an organisation does not have to provide that information if it does not hold it. NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) does not hold a copy of the algorithm used to allocate organs or any documentation relating to the function of the aforementioned algorithm.

You may wish to contact NHS Blood and Transplant who are the organisation that manages the organ donor register and allocation of organs - freedomofinformationrequests@nhsbt.nhs.uk

I trust you will find the information of assistance and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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

Head of Information and Cyber Security
Digital and Security
NHS National Services Scotland
Headquarters
Gyle Square
1 South Gyle Crescent
Edinburgh
EH12 9EB



Chair
Chief Executive
Director
Keith Redpath
Mary Morgan
Susi Buchanan

NHS National Services Scotland is the common name of the Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service

Specialist Healthcare Commissioning

or at the email address nss.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 application form](#).

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me at the above address.

Yours sincerely

