

Date 24 June 2026
Your Ref FOI-2026-3386
Our Ref FOI-2026-3386

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

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information Reference: FOI-2026-3386

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

I am requesting a statistical breakdown of newly issued Community Health Index (CHI) numbers.

For each calendar year from 2019 to 2025 inclusive, please provide a table showing the number of brand-new CHI numbers generated/allocated for the first time, broken down by:

1. The 14 territorial NHS Health Boards
2. The age of the individual at the time the number was issued, grouped into the following brackets: 55–64, 65–74, 75–84, and 85+.

To be clear, I am not looking for the total number of active patients already on the system. I only require the count of new registrations entering the system for individuals in these older age groups. To ensure this data reflects permanent demographic migration rather than tourism, please exclude all temporary residents (TR status) and emergency short-term allocations. I only require counts for individuals who registered as Ordinary / Permanent Residents with a Scottish GP practice.

After performing a search of our records I can confirm that under the [FOISA Section 17 exemption for “information not held”](#) Public Services Delivery Scotland (PSD Scotland) does not hold the information in relation to 2019 to 2023. This is due to the new CHI system being introduced and not having data from the old system that can be interrogated to provide these types of statistics. I attach a spreadsheet containing the data for 2024 and 2025.

Please note, for part of your data in 2024, for low numbers (less than 5) PSD Scotland has applied the [FOISA section 38\(1\)\(b\) exemption for “third party personal information”](#) to statistically suppressed actual values.

Statistical suppression has been applied as to reduce the potential identification of individuals involved, especially if combined with other data, as this would constitute a breach of Data Protection Legislation.

Chair Mr Keith Redpath
Chief Executive Professor Karen Reid

It is important to note that from 1 April 2026, NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) and NHS Education for Scotland (NES) joined to form 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 \(PSD Scotland\)](#)

I trust you will find the information of assistance 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,

