Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – SUICIDE/ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

I write in response to your email request of 18 February 2009 (received 19 February 2009) for information in relation to suicides and attempted suicides in NHS Lothian premises.

I have been provided with information to help answer your request by Ms Margaret Meikle, Datix System Administrator/Trainer - Risk Management Information System, NHS Lothian.

Ms Meikle has advised that NHS Lothian do not have a category of ‘suicide’ or ‘attempted suicide’ on the Datix system. We do have a category of ‘Self Harm’ and sub category of Deliberate Self Harm' and this information has been provided below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self Harm by Site and Year</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Astley Ainslie Hospital</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5&lt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ballenden House</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAMHS Tipperlin</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>5&lt;</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5&lt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duncan Street Dental Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edenhall Hospital</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>5&lt;</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edinburgh Homeless Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ferryfield House</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>5&lt;</td>
<td>~~~*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primrose Lodge</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosslynlee Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Edinburgh Hospital</td>
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<td>Royal Hospital for Sick Children</td>
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</table>
The report has been extracted using the criteria for incidents after 1 Jan 2004 to present. NHS Lothian did not start collecting information on Datix in Primary Care until July 0. * Figure cannot be provided as would lead to patient identification.

Progressively more incidents have been recorded, as staff have become more aware of the need to report even minor events and this has led to an increase due to better reporting. Local management teams can access and are also reminded via DATIX of any and all follow-ups required as a result of an incident.

To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 5 or less has not been shown in the table above. Since we do not have their consent to release this data from their records, the information is exempt under section 38 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act i.e. to provide it would breach the 7th Principle of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Further detail in relation to suicide or attempted suicide maybe contained within individual medical files, however this information is also exempt, as above. In order to provide additional information to answer your request more fully NHS Lothian would have to extract information from individual patient files. To extract the detail required would involve large numbers of files and the level of work required to extract this detail would take NHS Lothian over the £600 threshold, as set out in the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

I hope this information helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner.
If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to Mr I Whyte, FOI Reviewer at the address at the foot of this letter. The review will be undertaken by Mr Whyte as he was not involved in the original decision making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian’s Freedom of Information website at :-
http://www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk/your_rights/foi/foi_09.asp.

Yours sincerely

ALAN BOYTER
Director of Human Resources
and Organisational Development
Cc: Chief Executive