

Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

I would like to request data on lipid testing carried out by your laboratory for the fiscal years (1st April to 31st March) 2022, 2023 and 2024. Specifically, I am seeking the **annual number of lipid-related blood tests** processed, broken down by **referral source** and **test type**.

Please provide the total number of lipid-related blood tests originating from each of the following referral sources:

- Hospitals (inpatient and outpatient)
- General Practice (GP)
- Community services (including home sampling kits and other community-based services)

For each referral source, please also provide a breakdown of the total number of lipid-related blood tests by the following test types:

I understand that a lipid profile typically includes measurements of total cholesterol, HDL, and LDL. However, if some of these tests are requested individually rather than as part of a full panel, please report each type separately.

- Lipid profile (full panel)
- Total cholesterol (individual test)
- HDL cholesterol (individual test)
- LDL cholesterol (individual test)

Under Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (DBTH) confirms that it does not hold the information you have requested.

Responsibility for the provision and reporting of laboratory testing, including lipid profiles and related blood tests, now falls under Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (STH). STH provides Pathology services on behalf of the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Pathology Network (SYBP), which includes DBTH.

As part of regional consolidation, all pathology contracts, operational control, and associated data management responsibilities have been formally transferred (novated) to STH. While laboratory services may still be delivered from DBTH sites, the governance and ownership of test activity data now sit with STH.

To obtain the information you are seeking, we recommend contacting the STH Freedom of Information team directly:

✉ sth.foi@nhs.net

They will be best placed to assist you with data relating to lipid testing volumes, referral sources, and test types processed across the region.

Our Ref: 476
July 2025

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net.

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

Our Ref: 476
July 2025