

East Lothian Council

FOI Ref: 2018/454(498867)

How Many Elopements* of Dementia Patients from Care Homes in EL Occurred in 2017:

I have asked the Care Inspectorate for a Freedom of Information request regarding the number of elopements last year. They tell me their software is in the process of being updated but currently they cannot break down their figure of 8,466 incidents notified to them last year. Before I contact my MSP again regarding the introduction of a law which requires every dementia unit to have a basic standard of security installed, I need to find out from every local authority in Scotland how many elopements occurred in their area in the period January 2017-December 2017.

****"Elopement" is the term used in the USA where it is a common problem and where they have lawyers who deal only with these cases.***

There were three incidents of elopements from East Lothian Council's care homes in 2017