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Introduction

In 1993, each of the existing units made an application to become a NHS Trust under the terms of the NHS and Community Care Act 1990. The Trusts were not directly managed by Lothian Health Board: they were within the NHS but as distinct organisations independent of the Health Board. Each Trust had its own Chairmen and Boards of Directors.

On 1 April 1993, West Lothian Unit became West Lothian NHS Trust and the other five units followed on 1 April 1994 with Western General Hospitals Unit becoming Western General Hospitals NHS Trust.

In December 1997, a white paper entitled 'Designed to Care' was published. It recommended a greater patient perspective in health care and a reduction in the number of trusts in Lothian from six to three. In April 2000, these became Lothian Primary Care Trust (LPCT); Lothian University Hospitals NHS Trust (LUHT), incorporating Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh Trust, Western General Hospitals Trust and Edinburgh Sick Children's Trust; and the West Lothian Healthcare Trust (WLHT).

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1 Annual Reports and Summary Accounts, 1995-1998

1	1995	Western General Hospitals NHS Trust Annual Report and Accounts 1994/95.
2	1996	Western General Hospitals NHS Trust Annual Report 1995/96. Includes summary financial statements.
3	1997	Western General Hospitals NHS Trust Annual Report and Summary Accounts 1996-1997.
4	1998	Western General Hospitals NHS Trust Annual Report and Summary Accounts 1997-98.

2 Application for NHS Trust Status, 1993

1	1993	Application for NHS Trust Status – Western General incorporating the Royal Victoria Hospital. Full application.
2	1993	Western General Hospitals Unit – Application for NHS Trust Status – Summary.
3	1993	Western General Hospitals Unit – NHS Trust Application Summary. Leaflet.

3 Publications, c1996

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Excellence Health Care Education and Research – Western General Hospitals NHS Trust Edinburgh. Brochure designed to highlight the Trust's work and aimed at professionals who may wish to work with them.