



22 October 2018

Information Rights & Compliance Team  
99 Waverley Road  
St Albans  
Hertfordshire  
AL3 5TL

Tel: 01727 804954  
Email: [Hpft.foi@nhs.net](mailto:Hpft.foi@nhs.net)

Our Ref: FOI 2979

Thank you for your request concerning waiting times for children.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

- 1) **In each of the following financial years, please tell me the average waiting time for a child under-18 referred for a first appointment with CAMHS a) 2010/11 b) 2011/12 c) 2012/13 d) 2013/14 e) 2014/15 f) 2015/16 g) 2016/17 h) 2017/18**

We can only provide data for the last 3 years. This is because we changed our Electronic Patient Recording system in 2013/14 and we are unable to reliably report on referrals received before this date as differences in the systems would not give a true reflection of the mental health referrals received.

This was further complicated when our Teams changed names in 2014/15. To validate the information requested would involve manually reviewing each referral and to carry out this task would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450; therefore we have provided you with the information from 2015/16.

The information you are requesting from 2015/16 is already in the public domain<sup>1</sup>. Please follow this [link](#) to a previously published response.

- 2) **In 2017/18, please tell me how many of this same group of patients waited more than a) 6 weeks b) 18 weeks c) 26 weeks d) 52 weeks e) 104 weeks f) 156 weeks for a first appointment.**

Number of Patients Waiting for First Appointment 2017/18	Waiting Weeks (up to and including)
7	6
264	18
None	26
None	52
None	104
None	156

<sup>1</sup> Section 21 – Information is accessible through other means

- 3) For each patient currently on the waiting list for a first appointment with CAMHS, please tell me how many weeks they have been on that waiting list.

Number of Patients Waiting for First Appointment (as of 30/07/2018)	Waiting Weeks
41	Less than a Week
34	1
37	2
11	3
17	4
*	5
13	6 Weeks and Over

\* The Trust considers that entries of 5 or less to be sufficiently small enough to be potentially identifiable personal data. On this basis, the information has been exempt from the duty to publish<sup>2</sup>.

- 4) In each of the following financial years, please tell me the average waiting for a child under-18 to start treatment after being referred to CAMHS a) 2010/11 b) 2011/12 c) 2012/13 d) 2013/14 e) 2014/15 f) 2015/16 g) 2016/17 h) 2017/18

Please follow the link provided in question 1.

- 5) In 2017/18, please tell me how many of this same group of patients waited more than a) 6 weeks b) 18 weeks c) 26 weeks d) 52 weeks e) 104 weeks f) 156 weeks g) 208 weeks for treatment.

Number of Patients Waiting for Treatment 2017/18	Waiting Weeks (up to and including)
212	6
56	18
7	26
*	37
None	52
None	104
None	156

\* Please see above caveat regarding low numbers.

<sup>2</sup> Section 40(2) – Personal Data (absolute exemption in relation to information that is the personal data of the applicant)

- 6) For each patient currently waiting to start treatment with CAMHS, please tell me how many weeks they have been on that waiting list.

Number of Patients Waiting for Treatment (as of 30/07/2018)	Waiting Weeks
27	Less than a Week
48	1
43	2
49	3
17	4
17	5
75	6 Weeks and Over

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

*Sue Smith*

**Sue Smith**  
**Information Rights Officer**

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click here.

