

12 August 2019

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Our Ref: FOI/03384

Thank you for your request concerning CAMHS referrals and waiting times.

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

#### QUESTION

**For each of the last six years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19),**

- 1) **How many referrals were made to community (Tier 2) specialist community (Tier 3) and inpatient (Tier 4) (whichever is applicable) CAMHS in your area from the following sources”**
  - a. Primary schools
  - b. Secondary schools
  - c. Colleges
  - d. GP
  - e. Community Health Services (excluding GP)
  - f. Hospital (including A&E)
  - g. Local authority services (including social services)
  - h. Voluntary sector organisations
  - i. Police
  - j. Family
  - k. Self-referral
  - l. Other
- 2) **For each of these sources above and for each of the years above, how many referrals resulted in a face-to-face assessment?**
- 3) **For each of these sources above and for each of the years above, how many children and young people accessed treatment by NHS funded community services (at least two contacts) following a referral? (Please follow the Mental Health Five Year Forward View dashboard description for this indicator: “The numerator for this indicator is the number of children and young people (CYP) who received at least two contacts following a referral. The first contact must be within the relevant financial year and before their 18th birthday. Those contacts could be direct or indirect activity (excluding SMS or email).)**

#### ANSWER

We are unable to provide you with the answers to the above questions as we do not have a way of identifying which particular source has made a referral through our Electronic Patient Recording system<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Section 12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit has been applied

To establish if I could provide you with this information, I enquired with our Performance Department. They informed me that to provide the data would mean having to go through every CAMHS referral to see who made the referral.

Under section 12 of the FOIA a public authority does not have to comply with a request for information if the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

Please see below the number of referrals received in past 4 financial years.

**NOTE:** We changed our Electronic Patient Recording system prior to 2015/16 and we are unable to reliably report on referrals received as differences in the systems would not give a true reflection of the CAMHS referrals.

Financial Year	Number Of CAMHS Referrals
2015/16	4174
2016/17	4559
2017/18	4898
2018/19	5331

As stated above in 2018/19 alone there were 5,331 referrals to our CAMHS services and It is estimated that it would take approximately 5 minutes to manually review each referrals to identify the source i.e. 443 hours @ £25ph = £11,089.

Should you require further clarification or like to discuss payment, 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](#).

