

6 March 2020

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

Tel: 01727 804954
Email: Hpkt.foi@nhs.net

Our Ref: FOI/03611

Thank you for your request concerning autism spectrum disorder referrals.

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

1. The number of people, broken down by age category, who have been referred to your trust for diagnosis with suspected autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

This information is already in the public domain. Please follow this [link](#) to a request with the exact same question.

- 2. The number of people, broken down by age category, who have been referred to your trust for diagnosis that have an additional mental health condition at the same time as being referred for diagnosis with suspected autism spectrum disorder (ASD).**
- 3. A breakdown of those patients covered by part (2) by the additional mental health condition that they are diagnosed with.**
- 4. The number of people, broken down by age category, who are diagnosed with an additional mental health condition when they are already on the waiting for diagnosis of suspected autism spectrum disorder (ASD) as the result of a referral at a previous appointment.**
- 5. A breakdown of those patients covered by part (4) by the mental health condition that they are diagnosed with.**

It is not possible to provide you with the requested breakdown into age and additional mental health diagnosis within the legal time limit¹.

In order to provide you with this information would involve manually reviewing the 574 referrals. It is estimated that it would take 8 minutes to scrutinise the notes for age category and provisional diagnosis; to find the presence / absence of a mental health condition additional to the suspected ASD i.e. 76.53 hours @ £25 = £1,913.25.

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.

¹ Section 12 Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit has been applied

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](#).

