

7 May 2021

Information Rights & Compliance Team
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Our Ref: FOI/03832

Thank you for your request concerning Primary School Referrals.

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

- 1. The total number of referrals made to mental health services by primary schools (for pupils aged 11 and under) for each of the last four calendar years (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 so far)? Please break this down by month.**

We are unable to provide the requested breakdown of referrals by month or even by year due to the small number of identified children in the age range. We have applied Exemption Section 40(2) because entries of 5 or less are considered sufficiently small enough to be potentially identifiable data. On this basis, this information is exempt from the duty to publish.

However, under S16 – Duty to provide advice and assistance we can inform you that between January 2017 and December 2020 we have received a total of 41 referrals from primary schools for pupils aged 11 or under.

- 2. The total number of referrals made to mental health services by primary schools (for pupils aged 11 and under) which were declined for each of the last four calendar years (including 2020 so far)**

We do not decline referrals. If we do not provide the appropriate service we would always ensure they are signposted to the appropriate service in CAMHS, which in Hertfordshire is a collective of services provided by a number of different organisations. If a service is not suitable for HPFT Specialist CAMHS, we will triage and then forward to the service that can best meet the young person's needs. That may be CAMHS services provided by HCC, HCT or the voluntary sector. .

- 3. The known most number of times an individual child referred by a primary school has been declined mental health services over the last four financial years (i.e. this is according to records which are kept, please don't independently investigate if records are not able to be filtered to check this)?**

Please see the answer to question 2.

4. **The longest known time spent by an individual child referred by a primary school on a waiting list for mental health services over the last 4 calendar years (i.e. this is according to records which are kept, please don't independently investigate if records are not able to be filtered to check this)?**

The maximum wait time was 230 days due to an ADHD appointment which falls outside our 18 week wait time.

5. **The average waiting time spent by a child referred by a primary school to be seen by mental health services in 2020?**

The average wait time in 2020 is 16 days.

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](#).

