

26 October 2022

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Our Ref: FOI/04410

Thank you for your request concerning ADHD wait time and deaths.

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

- 1a. **The current wait time for an undiagnosed child (under the age of 18) to see a psychiatrist for ADHD after being referred from a GP on the NHS.**

378 days.

**CAVEAT:** Across Hertfordshire, there is currently a significant wait for CAMHS ADHD assessments. We are working with our commissioners and partners to improve the situation for local families.

- 1b. **Please can you also provide the average wait time for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>CAMHS ADHD Average Waited Time (Days)</b>	62	111	157	150	272	342

- 2a. **The current wait time for an undiagnosed adult to see a psychiatrist for ADHD after being referred from a GP on the NHS.**

90 days.

- 2b. **Please can you also provide the average wait time for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Adult ADHD Average Waited Time (Days)</b>	25	34	27	36	32	46

- 3a. The number of children (under the age of 18) with an ADHD diagnosis. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
- 3b. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.

Number of Children with ADHD Diagnosis	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
FEMALE	115	160	199	254	378	457
MALE	537	714	851	1004	1227	1417
NON-BINARY	0	0	0	0	0	5 or less
NOT SPECIFIED	0	5 or less	5 or less	5 or less	0	0

Due to the small numbers of some genders, we have applied Exemption Section 40(2)<sup>1</sup>. This is 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.

- 4a. The number of adults (over the aged of 18 with an ADHD diagnosis. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
- 4b. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.

Number of Adults with ADHD Diagnosis	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
FEMALE	65	75	83	102	123	102
MALE	148	175	187	180	159	130

- 5a. How many adult assessments were done in the last year. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
- 5b. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.

Number of Adult ADHD Assessments	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
FEMALE	40	37	48	42	55	30
MALE	84	96	96	58	57	46

<sup>1</sup> Section 40(2) - Personal Data has been applied. This is because by releasing this information could identify individual(s) and constitute a breach of the Data Protection Act (2018).

- 6a. How many children assessments were done in the last year. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
- 6b. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.

Number of CAMHS ADHD Assessments	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
FEMALE	46	74	64	64	55	37
MALE	219	262	272	200	116	50
NON-BINARY	0	0	0	0	0	5 or less
NOT SPECIFIED	0	5 or less	0	0	0	0

Please see the explanation regarding 5 or less given under question 3.

- 7a. In the last year how many adult ADHD assessment referrals have been rejected. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
- 7b. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
- 8a. In the last year how many children ADHD assessment referrals have been rejected. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
- 8b. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.

As a Trust we do not reject assessment referrals, we signpost the service user to an alternative more appropriate pathway.

This information is not held in a reportable manner. To provide this information would involve manually going through every referral received to establish if they were signposted to another more appropriate service. It is estimated it will take 10 minutes per referral to read and extract this information. So far in 2022 we have received 546 ADHD referrals so this would equate to 91 hours @ £25 per hour = £2,275. Therefore we have applied exemption S12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

In addition, we do not believe reading through individuals medical records for the purpose of a FOI request would be in line with the GDPR Data Protection Principles or the Caldicott Principles.

- 9a. In the last year how many adults with an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
- 9b. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.

This information is not held in a reportable manner<sup>2</sup>. To provide this information would involve cross referencing and scrutinizing the data across two different reporting systems. Diagnosis are recorded on our Electronic Patient Recording System and deaths are recorded on our Incident Reporting System. This would exceed the appropriate limit and therefore under the terms of Section 12 of the Act, we are not obliged to comply.

<sup>2</sup> Section12 – Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit

- 10a. In the last year how many children with an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**
- 10b. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

Please see the answer to question 9a and 9b.

- 11a. In the last year how many adults on the waiting list for an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**
- 11b. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

Please see the answer to question 9a and 9b.

- 12a. In the last year how many children on the waiting list for an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**
- 12b. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

Please see the answer to question 9a and 9b.

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](#).

