

5 January 2023

Information Rights & Compliance Team
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Our Ref: FOI/04511

Thank you for your request concerning autism and neurodevelopmental conditions.

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

These questions relate to CAMHS services (mental health and neurodevelopmental) across all Local Authorities within the ICS for the period of 1st January 2022 - the present day

1. What age range does your service cover?

CAMHS services are available for children and young people up to the age 18.

2. How many service users are receiving care

Gender	In Treatment
ADHD	
FEMALE	173
MALE	569
NON-BINARY	5 or less
NON-ADHD	
FEMALE	1037
MALE	515
NON-BINARY	19
NOT SPECIFIED	8
OTHER (NOT LISTED)	5 or less
TRANS MAN	12
TRANS WOMAN	5 or less

3. How many children/young people are on the waiting list, split by gender?

Gender	Number of Referrals on Waiting List
ADHD	
FEMALE	332
MALE	895
NON-BINARY	5 or less
NON-ADHD	
FEMALE	104
MALE	55
NON-BINARY	5 or less
OTHER (NOT LISTED)	5 or less
TRANS MAN	5 or less

4. What is the average age of autism diagnosis by gender?

We do not hold this information¹. The Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) diagnostic service is provided and managed by Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust.

5. How many of your current mental health service users have a diagnosis of autism, split by gender?

Gender	Number of Referrals
FEMALE	12
MALE	11

6. Is there an alternative service commissioned to deal with the MENTAL HEALTH needs of diagnosed or suspected autistic people? If yes, please provide details of the scope of their commission.

Commissioners at Hertfordshire County Council will be able to provide a full list of commissioned services for emotional and mental wellbeing of service users in Hertfordshire.

7. How many referrals have you received in 2022

As of 9 December 2022 we have received 2,305 referrals.

8. and how many have been refused/discharged without appointment or treatment?

282 referrals were discharge without an initial appointment.

We do not refuse referrals. All referrals received are triaged at the point of first contact so that they can be directed to the most appropriate service. For cases where the Trust does not provide the required service, our assessment team provide advice on the most appropriate service or source of support and advice.

¹ Section 1(1) Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled (a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and (b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him

The following questions relate to your clients who ALSO have a co-occurring mental health condition as well as being autistic or otherwise neurodivergent.

9. How many hours of CBT are offered each week?

It is not possible to quantify this because this information is not held in a reportable format.

10. How many of these hours are specifically adapted for autism?

Please see the answer to question 9.

11. How many hours of eating disorder therapies are offered each week?

Please see the answer to question 9.

12. How many are adapted specifically for autism?

Please see the answer to question 9.

13. Do you commission DBT and is it standard / adapted for autism?

HPFT have a DBT service which is accessible for service users with autism.

14. Do you commission EMDR and is it standard / adapted for autism?

HPFT provide EMDR as one of a number of therapies which is accessible for service users with autism.

15. Do you commission Art therapies and are they standard / adapted for autism?

Creative therapies are available on the inpatient ward and is accessible for service users with autism.

16. Is any Occupational therapy commissioned standard / adapted for autism?

HPFT provide Occupational Therapies as one of a number of therapies which is accessible for service users with autism.

17. Are lead professionals assigned to young people required to have recent training in autism from autistic-led organisations?

Training on neurodiversity is available via e-learning modules.

18. Are new lead professionals required to read case files?

As appropriate e.g. if supervising direct care.

19. Does your CAMHS offer an alternative method of contact (text, email, video) to accommodate autistic young people who find standard therapies hard to access?

Interventions via a range of methods are available to support delivery of interventions for all young people accessing CAMHS services.

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](#).

