

26 March 2024

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

Tel: 01727 804227  
Email: [Hpkt.foi@nhs.net](mailto:Hpkt.foi@nhs.net)

Our Ref: FOI/05078

Thank you for your request concerning ADHD waiting times.

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

- How many people are currently on your waiting list for ADHD assessments?  
Please break this down between children and adults.**

	<b>Currently on the waiting list for ADHD Assessment</b>
<b>Children</b>	836
<b>Adults</b>	1,548

**CAVEAT:** The above numbers represent the number of service users currently listed on our Electronic Patient Recording (EPR) system with ADHD as their primary diagnosis. This is a misrepresentation because it does not include service users with complex needs only those with ADHD listed as the main referral reason.

Under the FOIA the right of access is to the information which is held, not information which is accurate.

- How many assessments have you carried out every calendar year between 2018 and 2023?  
If possible, please break this down between children and adults.**

We are unable to separate ADHD assessments from any other type of assessments carried out.

In order for us to provide assessment data just for ADHD would involve us manually going through every referral and for just ACMHS from 2018 to 2022 there was 23,341 referrals; 5,430 in 2022 alone. At a conservative estimate of 15 mins per record to scrutinise each referral to establish referral reason to identify ADHD, then identify is an if an assessment took place leading to diagnosis would equate to a minimum of 5,835.25 hours work @ £25 hour = £145,881.25<sup>1</sup>.

ADHD assessments in CAMHS are recorded in the same way as ACMHS on our EPR. Again CAMHS ADHD assessments cannot be separated from any other type of assessment.

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

**3. How many ADHD referrals did you receive each calendar year between 2018 and 2023?  
Please break this down between children and adults.**

This information is already in the public domain<sup>2</sup>. Please follow this [link](#) to a previously published response (FOI 4929)

**4. How many ADHD referrals did you accept each calendar year between 2018 and 2023?  
Please break this down between children and adults.**

Again, because of the way in which we currently record data on our EPR we cannot track the number of referral accepted just for ADHD.

In order to provide this information would involve us manually going through every referral in ACMHS and CAMHS and this would invoke exemption Section 12 – Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

**5. What is the (mean) average time patients wait between referral and an assessment for ADHD for each calendar year between 2018 and 2023?  
If possible, please break this down between children and adults.**

Please see the answer to question 2. Without being able to provide the data for assessments, we are unable to provide the average wait time.

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](#).



---

<sup>2</sup> Section 21 – Information is available through other means