

FOI 3459

8th December 2025**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

Please provide two sets of waiting list data on paediatric elective care (RTT) (patients aged 0–17) for your Trust, disaggregated by: Ethnicity and Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) deciles.

For each combination of ethnicity and IMD group, please provide the number of patients waiting in each of the following time bands:

Up to 18 weeks

18 to 26 weeks

26 to 40 weeks

40 to 52 weeks

52 weeks and over

Please provide this data monthly, from Sep 21 to Sep 25, with each month reported separately.

Response:

Year Month	Total Waiters
2021/09	137
2021/10	141
2021/11	148
2021/12	153
2022/01	154
2022/02	163
2022/03	167
2022/04	170
2022/05	176
2022/06	167
2022/07	161
2022/08	148
2022/09	146
2022/10	155
2022/11	158
2022/12	155

2023/01	143
2023/02	146
2023/03	140
2023/04	143
2023/05	142
2023/06	131
2023/07	135
2023/08	124
2023/09	116
2023/10	107
2023/11	97
2023/12	96
2024/01	95
2024/02	84
2024/03	87
2024/04	97
2024/05	104
2024/06	104
2024/07	115
2024/08	122
2024/09	128
2024/10	131
2024/11	138
2024/12	148
2025/01	146
2025/02	154
2025/03	155
2025/04	155
2025/05	154
2025/06	151
2025/07	141
2025/08	156
2025/09	168

Waiting List 'as of' date	Total Waiters
04/07/2021	972
01/08/2021	1064
05/09/2021	1161
03/10/2021	1165
07/11/2021	1202
05/12/2021	1249
02/01/2022	1262
06/02/2022	1293
06/03/2022	1360
03/04/2022	1439



Southern Health and Social Care Trust

01/05/2022	1513
05/06/2022	1600
03/07/2022	1561
07/08/2022	1655
04/09/2022	1652
02/10/2022	1645
06/11/2022	1670
04/12/2022	1653
01/01/2023	1658
05/02/2023	1569
05/03/2023	1630
02/04/2023	1613
07/05/2023	1584
04/06/2023	1577
02/07/2023	1623
06/08/2023	1763
03/09/2023	1764
01/10/2023	1690
05/11/2023	1672
03/12/2023	1644
07/01/2024	1670
04/02/2024	1692
03/03/2024	1777
07/04/2024	1806
05/05/2024	1793
02/06/2024	1772
07/07/2024	1755
05/08/2024	1831
01/09/2024	1817
06/10/2024	1701
03/11/2024	1685
01/12/2024	1672
05/01/2025	1712
02/02/2025	1733
02/03/2025	1773
06/04/2025	1782
31/05/2025	1798
30/06/2025	1860
31/07/2025	1892
31/08/2025	1922
30/09/2025	1869

The data disaggregated by ethnicity and IMD has not been collected as this information is not routinely captured.

This information is not recorded centrally and therefore retrieving it would involve a manual search of individual patient records. As such we cannot provide this information as the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. To obtain this information from a number of individual patient records would exceed the £450 limit and is therefore cost prohibitive.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Public Authorities are not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit.

In addition, it would not be appropriate to search through individual patient records for the purposes for responding to a FOI request, there would be no patient expectation that medical records would be used in this way.

Email: Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net