

FOI 1687

21/06/23

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

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Do you have local provisions for all to receive NHS ADHD services? If no, and if relevant, under the NICE guidelines please detail on alternate services which the NHS will fund.

**There is no commissioned ADHD service for adults in the SHSCT therefore there is no assessment pathway in place for new referrals. If a person is diagnosed with ADHD in children's services and required ongoing medication management by a psychiatrist, they will continue to receive regular reviews by a psychiatrist in adult mental health services. Waiting times for ADHD diagnosis in adult services is not recorded or reported on in the SHSCT as there is no commissioned service in place.**

Current waiting time for NHS adult ADHD diagnosis

**As per above, waiting times for ADHD diagnosis in adult services is not recorded or reported on in the SHSCT as there is no commissioned service in place.**

Current waiting time for NHS child ADHD diagnosis

**See Newsletter attached**

Number of adults on waiting list for ADHD diagnosis

**As per above, waiting times for ADHD diagnosis in adult services is not recorded or reported on in the SHSCT as there is no commissioned service in place.**

Number of children on waiting list for ADHD diagnosis

**See Newsletter attached**

Based on the individual who is currently on the waiting list, what is the longest so far a patient has been waiting for a diagnosis.

**See Newsletter attached**

- How are the waiting list ordered? (i.e. first come first served? or are patients added based on urgency of how symptoms affect them, once on waiting list is it position fixed or can they be bumped down or up?)

**Children / young people are added to the waiting list in chronological order.**

If someone moves out of your region are they removed from the waiting list?

**In children/ young people, there is an informal agreement within Trusts that the original Trust will complete an assessment if started.**

If someone moves into the region do they have to begin at the bottom of the waiting list all over again?

**In children / younger people there is an informal agreement within Trusts that the original Trust will complete an assessment if started.**

Budget value in GBP and percentage allocated to ADHD services

**The CAMHS ADHD service has a budget of £54,271. Further recurrent funding of £481,600 has been provided to the Trust in 2020/2021 to implement the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Framework with a single point of entry for emotional health and wellbeing referrals and to strengthen collaborative working between CAMHS, ADHD, Autism Services and Community Paediatrics to provide early support and intervention while waiting for assessment. It would be difficult to determine the percentage of budget allocated to ADHD services due to number of services involved in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment for children and young people for ADHD.**

**There is no commissioned service for adult ADHD services.**

Do you operate under 'Right to Choose' (i.e. patients can choose where to get ADHD diagnosis funded by NHS, and can be referred to certain private providers with NHS contracts for diagnoses if NHS waiting list are long)

**The “Right to Choose” does not apply in Northern Ireland. This is an initiative introduced in the NHS in England and applies only to that region**

If relevant, cost to the NHS of using private practices for diagnosis

**This does not apply to the SHSCT**

Do you accept private diagnoses and shared care? (i.e. patient seeks private diagnosis due to long NHS waiting lists, will GP then accept this diagnosis and allow patient to receive NHS prescription rather than private?)

**The Trust has a process of reviewing private ADHD Assessments - Assessments are reviewed using NICE guidelines and the Trust assessment processes as a benchmark as to the acceptability of a Private Assessment.**

**If Adults have a private diagnosis of ADHD, a full assessment by the prescriber will be required before pharmacological interventions are recommended.**

How many staff are trained to diagnose and treat ADHD within your region.

**It is difficult to clarify as ADHD diagnosis has a number of components and there would be a wide range of MD staff in CAMHS and Community Paediatrics who**



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**could undertake elements of the assessment but there is smaller cohort of staff who could the undertake the whole assessment. In CAMHS there are 4 staff who are trained in each component of ADHD assessment including SNAP, Connors Rating Scale, QB testing and school observation.**

Are you making any improvements to these services/do you have any plans to improve these services.

**Children / young people services are offering service users joint ASD and ADHD assessments as required to avoid duplication and to create a more streamlined service. Southern Trust are offering parents/carers information workshops with their child/young person when added to the waiting list.**

Does the region have targets relating to ADHD care and the aforementioned points? If so what are these? Are they being met?

**There are no targets reported to SPPG (Strategic Planning and Performance Group) for ADHD in children or adult services.**

If a patient was presenting with severe depression and based on the ADHD pre assessment undertaken by a GP they showed high likelihood of having ADHD. Would this affect any of the answers to the above points? I.e. would they have access to more support/earlier ADHD diagnosis?

**Children / young people are added to the waiting list in chronological order.**

**A patient's mental health needs would be assessed by mental health services and interventions offered, as deemed clinically appropriate. An assessment of the patient's ADHD diagnosis would not be prioritised.**