

FOI – 2087

15<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

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**Can each Trust indicate how many children sought mental health support in your area in 2023?**

**How does that compare to the previous four years?**

Year	Referrals Received	Referrals Accepted	Not accepted
2019/20	3228	2324	904
2020//21	2547	1906	641
2021/22	3343	2295	1048
2022/23	3261	2277	984
2023/24*	2099	1496	603
*Year to date - Apr - Nov 23 (8 months)			

**How many were left waiting for mental health support at the end of 2023?**

As at 30 November 2023, 434 young people awaited initial assessment with CAMHS. The wait for assessment in CAMHS in Southern Health and Social Care Trust does not exceed 9 weeks.

**What was the average wait for a first appointment in 2023?**

The average wait is less than 9weeks for a first appointment – primarily this refers to Routine new contacts both face to face and virtual.

**What was the longest wait for a first appointment in 2023?**

The longest wait is 9 weeks for a first appointment

**How do those waits compare to the previous four years?**

The longest wait across the past four years has been 9 weeks

**How many referrals did not receive help at all or were turned away in 2023?  
How does that compare to the previous four years?**

See above table – not accepted column

Each referral which is sent to the Single Point of Entry (SPOE) is screened by a mental health practitioner and either accepted for assessment within CAMHS or not accepted. Where a referral has not been accepted the referrer is signposted to the most appropriate service for the young person.

**What is the mental health spend per child in your area?  
How does that compare to the previous four years?**

Year	Mental Health Spend per Child (£'000)
2019/20	2.5
2020/21	3.5
2021/22	3.0
2022/23	3.0
2023/24*	3.0

Finance Notes

*Spend includes all payroll and goods costs in each financial year.*

*\*2023/24 are year to date costs April-November 2023.*

**Can you outline how many mental health nurses work for the NHS in your area?**

Within CAMHS Step 2 and Step 3 there are 32 nurses in total and 20 of those are mental health nurses.

Please note that the above figure does not represent the total number of Mental Health Nurses for Southern Trust and refers to CAMHS Step 2 and Step 3 only.

**What is the number per 1000 of population?**

This information is not held.

**How does that number compare to the previous four years?**

This information is not held.

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