

Henry Shelford
hello@adhduk.co.uk

Date: 30 May 2023
Your Ref:
Our Ref: HC FOI 16717
Please quote reference number on all correspondence

Enquiries to: FOI Team
Email: nhsh.foirequestshighland@nhs.scot

Dear Mr Shelford

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Request Ref 16717 ADHD Services

Thank you for your request for information received on 17 April regarding the above. Please find below an extract from your request and our response:-

I am aware that this response has been issued to you outside the statutory timescale of 20 working days as set out in the Act and I apologise for the delay in responding. We always endeavour to comply with this timescale but unfortunately this is not always possible.

Please note that the information provided below relates North Highland for the financial year 2023 – 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 only. For the financial year 2021/22 there is no reliable data held.

Within Argyll & Bute, I am advised by both our CAMHS Team and Adult Mental Health Team that there is no separate ADHD waiting list and all referrals come under General Adult Psychiatry/CAMHS. Therefore, this information is not held in a centralised or extractable format. To identify the information you have requested would require a manual review of individual patient records during this period. This would greatly exceed the 40 hours/£600 ceiling as prescribed in the legislation.

- **Please may I request the answers to the following questions. With regards to your organisation: NHS Highland**

QUESTIONS FOCUSED ON ADULT ADHD SERVICES

1. **For your financial years 2022-23 and 2021-22 please can you tell us:**



Headquarters:

Assynt House, Beechwood Park, Inverness, IV2 3BW

Chair: Sarah Compton-Bishop
Chief Executive: Pam Dudek

- a. For each of those years how many adult assessments for ADHD were done?**

62

- i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.**

35 Females and 27 Male.

- b. For each of those years what was the average waiting time (in weeks) for adults who had an assessment for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).**

26 weeks.

- i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.**

N/A - this information is not held in a centralised or extractable format.

- c. For each of those years how many adult ADHD referrals were rejected prior to the individual receiving an assessment?**

85

- i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.**

N/A - this information is not held in a centralised or extractable format.

- d. For each of those years how many adults were waiting for an ADHD Assessment at the end of the year.**

227 waiting.

- i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.**

141 Female and 86 Male.

QUESTIONS FOCUSED ON CHILD ADHD SERVICES

- 2. For your financial years 2022-23 and 2021-22 please can you tell us:**
 - a. For each of those years how many child assessments for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) were done?**
 - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.**
 - b. For each of those years what was the average waiting time (in weeks) for children who had an assessment for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).**
 - c. For each of those years how many child ADHD referrals were rejected prior to assessment?**
 - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.**
 - d. For each of those years how many children were waiting for an ADHD Assessment at the end of the year.**
 - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.**

In response to the above questions, I am advised by our CAMHS Team that there is no separate ADHD waiting list. Therefore, this information is not held in a centralised/extractable format. To identify the information you have requested would require a manual review of individual patient records during this period. This would greatly exceed the 40 hours/£600 ceiling as prescribed in the legislation.

Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, we must formally decline to provide the information you request due to the excessive cost of compliance. Section 12 of the Act means Scottish public authorities are not obliged to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the £600 ceiling prescribed in regulations made by the Scottish Ministers.

GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR ORGANISATION AND ITS ADHD SERVICES

3. With relation to the present time (reflecting the most recent data that you have). Please can you answer the following questions:

a. With regards to your adult ADHD services.

i. Do you currently have a commissioned adult ADHD assessment service?

Yes.

ii. How many adults do you have waiting for an adult ADHD assessment?

296.

iii. What is your current expected waiting time (in weeks) for an adult ADHD Assessment?

35 weeks.

iv. What is your current longest waiting time for an adult ADHD Assessment?

1.5 years.

v. What is your process for reviewing and deciding whether to accept or reject adults who have been referred for an ADHD assessment.

Criteria assessment.

- vi. Is your organisation confident that it is satisfying the NICE guidelines for adults with ADHD?**

Yes.

b. With regards to your child ADHD services

- i. Do you currently have a commissioned child ADHD Assessment service?**
- ii. How many children do you have waiting for a child ADHD assessment?**
- iii. What is your current expected waiting time (in weeks) for a child ADHD Assessment?**
- iv. What is your current longest waiting time for a child ADHD Assessment?**
- v. What is your process for reviewing and deciding whether to accept or reject children who have been referred for an ADHD assessment.**
- vi. Is your organisation confident that it is satisfying the NICE guidelines for children with ADHD?**

Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, we must formally decline to provide the information you request due to the excessive cost of compliance. Section 12 of the Act means Scottish public authorities are not obliged to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the £600 ceiling prescribed in regulations made by the Scottish Ministers.

c. Information on your financial year.

- i. What are the dates of your financial year 2022-23.**

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

- ii. What are the dates of your financial year 2021-22.**

1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

I hope this response is helpful. If you are unhappy with my response, I am very happy to discuss this with you further.

Your right to request a review

If you have made a request and are unhappy with the response from us , you have the right to request an internal review from us. You can do this by making a formal request in writing to the:-

Freedom of Information Officer
NHS Highland
Assynt House
Beechwood Park
Inverness, IV2 3BW

or by email nhsh.foirequestshighland@nhs.scot

Your request should explain why you wish a review to be carried out and should be made within forty working days of receiving this letter.

Appealing to the Commissioner

If you remain dissatisfied following the investigation of your review, then you have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of the date of receiving the review response. You can contact the Commissioner as follows:

You can request an appeal by accessing the **Online Appeal Service** on the Commissioners' website. This is the best way to make an appeal as it provides help in real time and collects exactly what the Commissioner needs so they can investigate your case quickly.

Click [here](#) to access the online appeal service.
Or visit their website at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

If you don't wish to appeal online, you can contact the Commissioner. Your appeal must be in a format that can be kept for future use, e.g.in writing, by email or a recording on an audio or video tape.

Send your appeal by email

If you want to send your appeal by email, you should send your email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

Send your appeal by post

If you want to send your appeal by post, you should send your letter to:

The Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS

If you need help to make an appeal, you can contact the Commissioner's Office:

Email: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

Telephone: 01334 464610

You can find further information on making an appeal on the Commissioner's website. Click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Heather Campbell
Freedom of Information Officer