



**South London  
and Maudsley**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Office  
Maudsley Hospital  
Denmark Hill  
London  
SE5 8AZ

Email: [foi@slam.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@slam.nhs.uk)

17 May 2023

Dear Henry Shelford,

**RE: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your request for information received by the Trust on 17 April 2023 regarding Adult and CAMHS ADHD services under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

You requested the following information:

**QUESTIONS FOCUSED ON ADULT ADHD SERVICES**

-

1. For your financial years 2022-23 and 2021-22 please can you tell us:
  - a. For each of those years how many adult assessments for ADHD were done?

Please see the below table showing the number of adult assessments for ADHD that took place in 2021/22 and 2022/23 for the National Adult ADHD & ASD Outpatient Clinic and the 3 Borough Adult ADHD & ASD Outpatient Clinic.

	National adult ADHD & ASD Outpatient Clinic	3 Borough adult ADHD & ASD Outpatient Clinic
2021-2022	353	208
2022-2023	262	274

\*Please note, the clinics offer ADHD and ASD assessments. They do not hold separate ADHD and ASD waiting lists, they are combined.

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

This information is exempt under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (cost limit) as the Trust estimates that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit. The

reason for this exemption is because it would require an audit of individual records to extract this information.

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

This information is not held as there is no report which indicates historical waiting times.

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

This information is not held in a readily available format. Please see the answer for question 1.a.i.

- d. For each of those years how many adults 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.**

This information is not held in a readily available format. Please see the answer for question 1.a.i.

## **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.**

For all parts of question 2, the Trust is unable to provide information to support this question. The Trust is currently developing our ADHD dashboard in order to support questions like this including historic data.

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

Please see the answer for question 2.a.i.

- 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.**

Please see the answer for question 2.a.i.

- 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.**

Please see the answer for question 2.a.i.

### **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. The Trust has a local ADHD & ASD outpatient clinic for adults with a GP registered in Lambeth, Lewisham and Croydon, known as the 3 borough clinic. The Trust also has a national adult ADHD and ASD Outpatient Clinic which is a tertiary service and required individual funding approval to ensure patients access the correct local pathways.

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

	National adult ADHD & ASD Outpatient Clinic	3 Borough adult ADHD & ASD Outpatient Clinic
Number of adults waiting for an adult ADHD assessment	2289	4054

\*Please note, the clinics offer ADHD and ASD assessments. They do not hold separate ADHD and ASD waiting lists, they are combined.

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

	National adult ADHD & ASD Outpatient Clinic	3 Borough adult ADHD & ASD Outpatient Clinic

Current approximate waiting times for adult ADHD assessment	229 weeks	273 weeks
---	-----------	-----------

\*Please note, the clinics offer ADHD and ASD assessments. They do not hold separate ADHD and ASD waiting lists, they are combined.

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

Please refer to the answer for question 3.a.iii.

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

Each individual referral is clinically screened by a clinician within the team.

**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?**

The Trust is commissioned to conduct assessments for mental health disorders which may include ADHD.

**ii. How many children do you have waiting for a child ADHD assessment?**

Please see the answer for question 2.a.i.

**iii. What is your current expected waiting time (in weeks) for a child ADHD Assessment?**

As of the end of April 2023, the expected average waiting time is 25 weeks from team referral to a first attended clinical event.

**iv. What is your current longest waiting time for a child ADHD Assessment?**

Please see the answer for question 2.a.i.

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

The Trust's CAMHS are now increasingly using automated informatics to screen for ADHD in the referred population.

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

Yes

**c. Information on your financial year.**

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

1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023

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

1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting. Any other reuse, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the Trust. This may be done by writing to the Information Governance Office at the above address.

If you have any queries about this letter or if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Office via [foi@slam.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@slam.nhs.uk)

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,



Christopher Howarth  
Information Governance Assurance Manager