

Henry Shelford  
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Date: 30 May 2025  
Your Ref:  
Our Ref: FOI: 24626  
*Please quote reference number on all correspondence*

Enquiries to: FOI Team  
Email: [nhsh.foirequestshighland@nhs.scot](mailto:nhsh.foirequestshighland@nhs.scot)

Dear Henry

**Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 – Request Ref 24626  
ADHD UK**

Thank you for your request for information received on 28 April 2025 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 out with the statutory timescale of 20 working days as set out in the Act and I apologise sincerely for our delay in responding. Whilst we always endeavour to comply with this timescale, I regret that it has not been possible on this occasion.

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 gives you the right to recorded information held by Scottish public authorities, subject to the exemptions listed in the legislation. FOISA does not impose a duty on Scottish Public Authorities to create new information, only to provide the information which is routinely recorded and held. Please note that there are exemptions applicable to some of the information you have requested as detailed below.

- **This is a freedom of information request. Thank you for your time and consideration of this.**

**Section A**

**(A1) Does your organisation commission Adult ADHD Assessments? If yes, please list:**

No

**(A1-i) the organisation or organisations in receipt of commission from you alongside the contract value for the last public sector financial year (1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025) and the current public sector financial year (1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026).**



**Headquarters:**  
Assynt House, Beechwood Park, Inverness, IV2 3BW

Chair: Sarah Compton-Bishop  
Chief Executive: Fiona Davies

N/A.

**(A2) Does your organisation commission Child ADHD Assessments? If yes, please list:**

No, NHS Highland does not commission ADHD assessments for children.

**(A2-i) the organisation or organisations in receipt of commission from you alongside the contract value for the last public sector financial year (1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025) and the current public sector financial year (1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026).**

N/A.

**(A3) Does your organisation undertake Adult ADHD Assessments? If yes, please list:**

**(A3-i) the organisation or organisations that have contracted you to provide the ADHD Assessment service alongside the financial contract value for the last public sector financial year (1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025) and the current public sector financial year (1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026).**

N/A.

**(A4) Does your organisation undertake Child ADHD Assessments? If yes, please list:**

N/A.

**(A4-i) the organisation or organisations that have contracted you to provide the ADHD Assessment service alongside the financial contract value for the last public sector financial year (1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025) and the current public sector financial year (1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026).**

N/A.

## **Section B**

**Please could you provide the information for the last public sector year (the period covering 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025).**

**(B1). The number of Adult ADHD Assessments undertaken in that period**

| <b>2021/22</b> | <b>2022/23</b> | <b>2023/24</b> | <b>2024/25</b> |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 42             | 118            | 67             | 61             |

**(B2). The number of Adults waiting for an ADHD Assessment at the end of that period.**

| 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|         |         |         | 744     |

Due to system constraints, for previous years, information was not collected at the required level. Therefore, data for the years 2021/22 to 2023/24 is considered to be not held.

In accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this represents a formal notice that the information you have requested is not held by NHS Highland.

**(B3). The number of Adults waiting for an ADHD Assessment at the date of receipt of this FOI request.**

This data not available until the month end, therefore the answer to B2 is the most recent figure.

**(B4). The number of Child ADHD Assessments undertaken in that period**

NHS Highland are unable to provide data on the number of children specifically waiting ADHD Assessment. This is because there is no specific waiting list for ADHD Assessment. All children and young are referred for a neurodevelopmental assessment and are placed on a general NDAS waiting list.

The number of child neurodevelopmental assessments undertaken is shown in the table below.

| 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|         |         | 101     | 63      |

**(B5). The number of Children waiting for an ADHD Assessment at the end of that period.**

NHS Highland are unable to provide data on the number of children specifically waiting ADHD Assessment. This is because there is no specific waiting list for ADHD Assessment. All children and young are referred for a neurodevelopmental assessment and are placed on a general NDAS waiting list.

Data provided below is the number of children waiting for assessment for neurodevelopmental disorders, including Autism Spectrum Disorder, Intellectual Disability, Developmental Coordination Disorder and Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, as well as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

| 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 542     | 898     | 1475    | 1918    |

*\* This for is for Northern Highland only. This data is not collated or held in aggregate within Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership.*

**(B6). The number of Children waiting for an ADHD Assessment as of the date of receipt of this FOI request.**

In response to questions B4 to B6, NHS Highland are unable to provide data on the number of children specifically waiting ADHD Assessment. This is because there is no specific waiting list for ADHD Assessment.

All children and young are referred for a neurodevelopmental assessment and are placed on a general CAMHS waiting list.

In accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this represents a formal notice that the information you have requested is not held by NHS Highland.

**If it does not take us over the FOI cost threshold, then please can we ask similar questions for the prior public sector year. For the period covering 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.**

**(B7). The number of Adult ADHD Assessments undertaken in that period**

See response to B1.

**(B8). The number of Adults waiting for an ADHD Assessment at the end of that period.**

See response to B2.

**(B9). The number of Child ADHD Assessments undertaken in that period**

See response to B3.

**(B10). The number of Children waiting for an ADHD Assessment in that period.**

See response to B4.

**If it does not take us over the FOI cost threshold, then please can we ask the same questions for the public sector, the year before the above. For the period covering 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.**

**(B11). The number of Adult ADHD Assessments undertaken in that period**

**(B12). The number of Adults waiting for an ADHD Assessment at the end of that period.**

**(B13). The number of Child ADHD Assessments undertaken in that period**

**(B14). The number of Children waiting for an ADHD Assessment in that period.**

If it does not take us over the FOI cost threshold, then please can we ask the same questions for the public sector, the year before the above. For the period covering 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022.

**(B15). The number of Adult ADHD Assessments undertaken in that period**

**(B16). The number of Adults waiting for an ADHD Assessment at the end of that period.**

**(B17). The number of Child ADHD Assessments undertaken in that period**

**(B18). The number of Children waiting for an ADHD Assessment in that period.**

Information in response to question B11 to B18 has not been provided in order to keep this request within the cost threshold.

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.

## **Section C**

If it does not take us over the FOI cost threshold, then please can we ask this additional set of questions

**(C1). Did you pay out under Right to Choose for Adult ADHD Assessments in the prior public sector year? If yes:**

**(C1-i) How many Adult ADHD Assessments were paid out under Right to Choose in the last public sector year (2024-25)**

**(C2-ii) What was the total value of Adult ADHD Assessments under Right to Choose in the last public sector year (2024-25).**

**(C2-iii) Please list the organisations you paid out for Adult ADHD Assessments under Right to Choose, alongside the total financial amount paid, and the quantity of Adult ADHD Assessments undertaken for the last public sector year (April 1st 2024- 31st March 2025).**

**(C2). Did you pay out under Right to Choose for Child ADHD Assessments in the prior public sector year? If yes:**

**(C1-i) How many Child ADHD Assessments were paid out under Right to Choose in the last public sector year (2024-25)**

**(C2-ii) What was the total value of Child ADHD Assessments under Right to Choose in the last public sector year (2024-25).**

**(C2-iii) Please list the organisations you paid out for Child ADHD Assessments under Right to Choose, alongside the total financial amount paid, and the**

**quantity of Child ADHD Assessments undertaken for the last public sector year (April 1st 2024- 31st March 2025)**

In response to Part C of your request, I can confirm that NHS Highland does not hold this as the Right to Choose is not applicable in NHS Scotland.

In accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this represents a formal notice that the information you have requested is not held by NHS Highland.

I hope my response is helpful and provides the information you require. If you wish to discuss my response or have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to get in touch quoting the reference number above.

**Your right to request a review**

Under Section 20 (1) of the Act, if you have made a request and are unhappy with our response, you have the right to request an internal review. 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](mailto: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 request an appeal by accessing the [Online Appeal Service](#) on the Commissioner's website.

If you do not wish to appeal online, you can also contact the Commissioner by email or post as follows:

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

Email: [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info)

Telephone: 01334 464610

Further information on making an appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner can be found on their website [here](#).

Yours sincerely

**Heather Campbell**  
**Freedom of Information Officer**