

Ref: FOI.26.KAM068

Private and confidential

Henry Shelford
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FOI Department
NHS Kent and Medway ICB
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Sent via email

Email: kmicb.foi@nhs.net
Website: www.kentandmedway.icb.nhs.uk

26th May 2026

Dear Mr Shelford

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 received on 7th May 2026 by NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board (ICB). The information you have requested is listed below together with the response:

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for the following information regarding ADHD assessments within NHS Kent and Medway ICB.

Adult ADHD Assessments

1. How many adults do you have waiting for an ADHD diagnosis at the moment?

The ICB does not hold this information at present.

2. How many adults were given an ADHD Assessment in the last year (1st April 2025 - 31st March 2026).

The ICB does not hold this information.

3. If an adult was referred to you now when would you expect them to be seen?

The ICB cannot answer this question. However, the ICB is seeking to establish a minimum waiting time across all providers within the financial envelope to ensure parity for all people referred.

4. Please describe your current Adult ADHD Assessment pathway.

The pathway is Right to Choose which is set out in national NHSE guidance.

5. Do you have any indicative activity plans in place for Right to Choose ADHD Adult Assessment providers?



Yes

6. If yes, to the above, please outline each indicative activity plan (for Adult ADHD Assessment providers) that you have in place. Including the name of the provider and the activity plan they are to adhere to.

The ICB considers this information exempt from disclosure under *Freedom of Information Act 2000, Section 43(2) (Commercial Interests)*. Releasing this information would adversely affect the commercial interests of the ICB.

Section 43(2) is a prejudice based 'qualified' exemption and is subject to the public interest test. This means that not only does the information have to prejudice one of the purposes listed, but before the information can be withheld, the public interest in preventing that prejudice must outweigh the public interest in disclosure.

Public Interest Test

Considerations in favour of disclosure:

- The inherent public interest in the openness and transparency of public authority dealings
- The public interest in demonstrating that officials are spending public money wisely and getting best value, without fear or favour

Considerations against disclosure:

- Disclosure would reveal commercially sensitive information about provider activity levels and commissioning arrangements
- This may prejudice the ICB's ability to secure best value in future negotiations with providers
- Disclosure could distort the market by enabling providers to adjust pricing or negotiating positions based on detailed knowledge of ICB commissioning intentions
- There is a public interest in protecting the ICB's ability to operate effectively within a competitive provider market

Conclusion:

The ICB recognises the public interest in transparency and accountability. However, there is a stronger public interest in protecting commercially sensitive information where disclosure would be likely to prejudice the ICB's ability to secure best value and manage services effectively.

Having undertaken the balancing exercise, the ICB has concluded that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Child ADHD Assessments

1. How many children do you have waiting for an ADHD diagnosis at the moment?

3860 as at January 2026 (excluding Right to Choose)

2. How many children were given an ADHD Assessment in the last year (1st April 2025 - 31st March 2026).

The ICB does not currently hold data for February-March 2026. However, in the 12 months from Feb-25 to Jan-26, 2036 ADHD assessments were completed (excluding Right to Choose)

3. If a child was referred to you now when would you expect them to be seen?

The ICB cannot answer this question. However, the ICB is seeking to establish a minimum waiting time across all providers within the financial envelope to ensure parity for all people referred.

4. Please describe your current Child ADHD Assessment pathway.

The ICB does not hold this information. Please contact Kent Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and Kent and Medway Mental Health Trust.

5. Do you have any indicative activity plans in place for Right to Choose ADHD Child Assessment providers?

Yes

7. If yes, to the above, please outline each indicative activity plan (for Child ADHD Assessment providers) that you have in place. Including the name of the provider and the activity plan they are to adhere to

The ICB considers this information exempt from disclosure under *Freedom of Information Act 2000, Section 43(2) (Commercial Interests)*. Releasing this information would adversely affect the commercial interests of the ICB.

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We hope that this has dealt with your request for information however, should you remain dissatisfied, you have the right to request that we conduct an internal review of the way we have handled your request. If you would like us to conduct such a review please contact us within two months of this letter:

Email kmicb.foi@nhs.net or

FOI-Internal Review Request

NHS Kent and Medway ICB
2nd Floor, Gail House
Lower Stone Street
Maidstone
ME15 6NB

Your request for an internal review will then be processed in accordance with our Freedom of Information Policy. If you are still dissatisfied following the internal review, you have the right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner provides full and detailed guidance on the Freedom of Information Act and on when and how to complain.

Please find below the link to their website page and their helpline number.

<https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/>

Helpline number: 0303 123 1113

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response, which will protect your anonymity, will be posted on the NHS Kent and Medway ICB website.

Yours sincerely

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**Freedom of Information Team
NHS Kent and Medway ICB**