

08th July 2026

Our ref: FOI/08877

Dear Mr Shelford,

Thank you for your request for information.

You asked us to supply the following information. Our replies appear in bold type below.

#### Your Request & Our Response

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for the following information regarding ADHD assessments within Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB advised us (FOI ref FOI-964-LSC) that information on children's ADHD assessment services is held by your Trust.

#### Adult ADHD Assessments

1. How many adults do you have waiting for an ADHD diagnosis at the moment? – **461**

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

**None, the pathway was in business continuity for this period.**

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

**We are not commissioned to provide ADHD services and are closed to referrals.**

4. Please describe your current Adult ADHD Assessment pathway.

**We are not commissioned to provide ADHD assessments but have a limited amount of funding for a wait list initiative which consists of 4 stages. Patients can leave the pathway at any stage.**

- Screening utilising evidence based tools
- Initial appointment with ADHD/mental health practitioner
- MDT with ADHD practitioners, mental health practitioners, and psychiatry
- Initial psychiatry appointment.

#### Child ADHD Assessments

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

Chair: James Wilkie

Chief Executive: Maggie Oldham

**RESEARCH MATTERS AND SAVES LIVES – TODAY'S RESEARCH IS TOMORROW'S CARE**

Blackpool Teaching Hospitals is a Centre of Clinical and Research Excellence providing quality up to date care. We are actively involved in undertaking research to improve treatment of our patients. A member of the healthcare team may discuss current clinical trials with you.

**We currently have 101 young people waiting for a medic appointment (not guaranteed diagnosis though).**

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

**Our systems do not record the requested information in a format that is easily accessible, to retrieve it would require manually reviewing each clinic letter from every child seen by the medic to then review whether a diagnosis was given. In cases where a diagnosis was not given, they may have been immediately discharged, transferred to CAMHS or further onward referrals therefore the data is not captured. This information is therefore exempt on the grounds of cost (Section 12(1)).**

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

**Currently, if a referral was triaged and accepted, an initial assessment with an ADHD practitioner would be within 6-8 weeks from referral being received.**

8. Please describe your current Child ADHD Assessment pathway.

**Referral received via SPOA and would be triaged within 1-4 weeks by ADHD Team. If accepted, an initial assessment would be completed within 6-8 weeks. Following this, a QB will be offered within 6-8 weeks following initial assessment. Following this, the ADHD team will liaise with the child school to complete school observations within approx. 8-12 weeks (child and family not informed of school observations date to ensure this is an accurate reflection of the child's presentation across 2 settings), however school observation timescales vary due to school holidays, exam periods etc.**

**In the absence of either a QB or school observations being able to be completed due to possible factors including the child not being in education, being unable to complete QB due to a learning disability etc, an additional clinical observation appointment will be offered for further information gathering. Once all above pathway steps have been followed, the case will be discussed within the ADHD MDT within 3-4 weeks of the final observations being completed. During this MDT discussion, all information gathered will be reviewed alongside the DSM-5 criteria and an outcome will be reached to either progress to Medic pathway for diagnosis review or the case will be discharged with onward referral recommendations and clearly outlining the DSM-5 criteria that was not met/in-line with ADHD at the time of referral. Current wait time for medic review is approximately 11-12 months. Noted that cases can be brought to the MDT at any stage to be discussed whether discharge is appropriate rather than progressing through the pathway should information gathering indicate lack of evidence of ADHD.**

The information in this response is provided under the terms of the Open Government Licence. Please see here for more information:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

The following link is a customer satisfaction survey if you would like to leave feedback:

<https://www.blackpoolteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/services/information-governance/freedom-information-foi/foi-satisfaction-survey>

If you are dissatisfied with our response to your request for access to information you may ask us to carry out an internal review. You should do this by writing to:



**Blackpool Teaching  
Hospitals**

**NHS Foundation Trust**

The Information Governance Manager  
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
Blackpool Victoria Hospital  
Whinney Heys Rd  
Blackpool  
FY3 8NR

Email: [bfwh.pso@nhs.net](mailto:bfwh.pso@nhs.net)

Requests for a review must be received within 40 working days following the initial response.

If you are not content with the outcome of our review, you may apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours Sincerely,  
Leanne McGhee  
Information Rights Manager