



**Making Life
Better Together**



**South West London and
St George's Mental Health**
NHS Trust

Freedom of Information
Elizabeth Newton Building
Springfield University Hospital
Elizabeth Newton Way
London
SW17 0YG

Direct line: 0203 513 6110
Email: FOI-requests@swlstg.nhs.uk
Website: www.swlstg.nhs.uk

Date: 13 July 2026
Ref: 3424-FOI

Dear Mr Shelford,

Freedom Of Information –ADHD Assessments

Thank you for your enquiry. I am writing in response to your freedom of information request sent on 12/06/2026. For ease of reference, your request is set out below in bold followed by our response in italics.

- 1. How many adults do you have waiting for an ADHD diagnosis at the moment?**
As of 16/06/2026 there are 4224 adults waiting for an ADHD assessment.
- 2. How many adults were given an ADHD Assessment in the last year (1st April 2025 - 31st March 2026).**
276 Adults had an ADHD assessment in 2025/26 fin year
- 3. If an adult was referred to you now, when would you expect them to be seen?**
Average wait from referral to Assessment in 2025/26 was 93.4 weeks
- 4. Please describe your current Adult ADHD Assessment pathway.**

The assessment process is:

- *Identified with GP that assessment for ADHD would be appropriate - referral sent to the SWLStG single point of access*
- *SPA review for mental health concerns and confirm the GP's geographic alignment to the service.*
- *Once received, a request for information is sent to the client (Barkley Adult ADHD Rating Scale & request for a personal statement).*
- *If this additional information is not received the referral is closed.*
- *Once received, the information is clinically triaged; if not identified as clinically appropriate for ADHD assessment, discharged to GP.*
- *Once the client reaches the top of the waiting list, they are contacted for the assessment to be scheduled.*
- *This is arranged over 2 90-minute appointments with a specialist practitioner, using the Diagnostic Interview for ADHD in Adults (DIVA) Template*
- *At the end of the two appointments, the diagnosis will either be confirmed or otherwise.*

Chief Executive, Vanessa Ford

Chair, Ann Beasley



Respectful



Open



Collaborative



Compassionate



Consistent



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

	Pre Screening	DAP (Assessment)
ADHD	Our information-gathering tool currently combines referral information, which means it is unable to distinguish between ADHD, ASD, or dual referrals at the point of referral. We are working to enhance the system so that information for each referral type can be captured and reported separately. As of 3 July 2026, there are 3,392 children and young people (CYP) waiting to be screened.	1092
ADHD/ASD		992

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

862 children and young people had a completed assessment with the CAMHS Neurodevelopmental Team (CAMHS NDT). Please note this includes ADHD and ASD assessments.

Assessment Type	Completed Ax 25/26
ADHD	296
ADHD/ASD	160
No Diagnosis given	157

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

In 25/26 there was an average wait from referral to CAMHS NDT to the initial assessment contact of 46.9 weeks.

Pre Screening	DAP (Assessment)	(DAP (Assessment) Avg Waiting Time)
12 months	18 months waiting time	47.6 weeks (it is important to note that the longest waiting time for the period was March 2026 with 61 weeks waiting time)

Please note this does not include the wait prior to CAMHS NDT when child/young person is in Pre Neuro screening.



8. Please describe your current Child ADHD Assessment pathway.

Stages	Description
1. Referral Received	<i>Referrals are received from the local Single Point of Access (SPA) into the Neurodevelopmental (NDT) SPA following successful triage, ADHD screening questionnaires are then issued to parents/carers and the young person's educational setting for completion.</i>
2. Pre-screening	<i>Completed questionnaires are returned to the NDT SPA, where the administration team checks that all required documentation has been received before progressing to clinical pre-screening.</i>
3. Clinical Screening	<i>A clinician reviews the completed information to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to proceed to a comprehensive diagnostic assessment. Parents/carers and the young person are informed of the outcome of the screening process.</i>
4. Screening Decision	<i>If the referral meets the agreed clinical threshold, the young person progresses to the Diagnostic Assessment Pathway (DAP). Where the threshold is not met, the referral is closed, and appropriate advice and/or signposting is provided.</i>
5. Acceptance onto the Diagnostic Assessment Pathway	<i>Following acceptance onto the DAP, a confirmation letter is sent to the parents/carers and young person advising that the referral has been accepted for assessment. The current waiting time is shared and the estimated time of assessment is also shared in this letter only as a guide.</i>
6. Diagnostic Assessment	<i>When the young person reaches the top of the waiting list, an assessment appointment is booked. The assessment includes both a parent interview and a direct assessment with the young person, with a total appointment duration of approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes.</i>
7. Feedback and Diagnostic Report	<i>Within four weeks of the assessment, parents/carers are contacted to discuss the assessment findings during a feedback appointment. A comprehensive diagnostic report is completed within a further four weeks and shared with the parents/carers and the young person's GP.</i>

I trust that this response satisfies your request. However, if you are not satisfied you may request an internal review of our response by emailing us at foi@swlstg.nhs.uk setting out your reasons. Please ensure that the reference number appearing in the subject line above is quoted to make it easier for the team to deal with further correspondence. Requests for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of receipt of our response.

In the event that you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of any appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), although they will expect you to exhaust the Trust internal complaints policy before they will consider a case. For further details see www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Philip Murray
Chief Finance and Performance Officer

Chief Executive, Vanessa Ford

Chair, Ann Beasley