

Information Governance Office
Maudsley Hospital
Denmark Hill
London
SE5 8AZ

Email: foi@slam.nhs.uk

20 July 2025

Dear Henry,

RE: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information received by the Trust on 11 June 2026 under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

You requested the following information:

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

- a. 3 Boroughs Adult ADHD and Autism Service (covering Lambeth, Lewisham and Croydon) – 4643
- b. National Adult ADHD and Autism Outpatient Clinic (tertiary service, closed to new National referrals since January 2023) – 833

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

- a. 3 Boroughs Adult ADHD and Autism Service - 181
- b. National Adult ADHD and Autism Outpatient Clinic – 48

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

- a. 3 Boroughs Adult ADHD and Autism Service – Funding is not distributed evenly across the 3 Boroughs due to ICB allocation. Therefore, the waiting times differ between boroughs. In addition, outsourcing work is currently ongoing in Lambeth and Lewisham. As a result we are currently unable to predict when a patient would be seen if they are referred today. However patients currently being booked have been waiting for 4 years and 8 months.

b. National Adult ADHD and Autism Outpatient Clinic – Patients who are currently being booked have been waiting 5 years and 3 months.

4. Please describe your current Adult ADHD Assessment pathway.

a. We follow NICE guidance for the assessment and diagnosis of adult ADHD. In line with NICE guideline NG87: Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: diagnosis and management, the diagnostic process for adults is undertaken in accordance with NICE recommendations on recognising and diagnosing ADHD in adults, with the aim of ensuring accurate diagnosis and appropriate clinical decision-making. Our assessment process includes pre-assessment questionnaires and a pre-assessment interview with the patient and, where possible, an informant who knows the patient well, to help gather relevant background information and collateral history in advance of the full clinical assessment. We utilise the DIVA 5.0 (Diagnostic Interview for ADHD in Adults), a semi-structured clinician-administered interview based on DSM-5 criteria, to support a thorough review of current symptoms, childhood onset, chronicity, and functional impairment across settings. This is followed by a comprehensive clinical evaluation, including consideration of developmental and childhood history, mental health, medical and social history, differential diagnosis, and any coexisting conditions. Where possible, collateral information is included to support diagnostic accuracy.

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

2748 as of the end of April 2026.

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

Due to reporting limitations of our clinical records system, we are unable to provide this information as it cannot separate assessment appointments by type.

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

As of end of April 2026 the average waiting time for an ADHD assessment was 19 months.

8. Please describe your current Child ADHD Assessment pathway.

Please see attached document outlining the CAMHS ADHD Assessment pathway.

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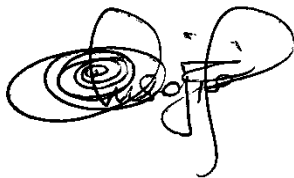
If you have any queries about this letter or if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our

decision, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Office via foi@slam.nhs.uk

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clement Olusoji', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Clement Olusoji
Corporate Information Governance Officer