

Our Ref: NG/RM/24295
Date: 13th September 2024

Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
Lawton House
Bellringer Road
Trentham
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 20th August 2024. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

1. Under the freedom of information act can you please advise how long the wait is for an adult ADHD assessment?

The attention deficit hyperactivity disorder service within our Trust, until part way through 2023/24, had been integrated with our core community mental health teams

As we are unable to extract attention deficit hyperactivity disorder specific referrals from our core community mental health team referrals, we are unable to provide a response to this question.

To do so would require a manual review of the data which we have assessed would exceed the cost limit outlined in Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

2. If an assessment was to be completed though a private provider and medication was prescribed, can you please advise regarding the process for the transfer of care back to the GP?
 - **Any new referrals can go through the newly funded Adult ADHD assessment service at North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust, although patients still can request referral to any other Integrated Care Board (ICB) registered service under the Right to Choose UK.**
 - **Referrals already made by the GP through Psychiatry UK/ Right to Choose, and the GP practice subsequently receives a request to share care back under the NHS, if the GP considers the Essential Shared Care Agreement (ESCA) is acceptable and can continue prescribing as long as the patient is under the monitoring of said specialist.**



Chair: Janet Dawson
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
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- If the patient refers themselves independently, the GP would not take on prescribing/ monitoring. If the patient wishes to receive care under the NHS, they must be referred to the new local ADHD service
3. Could a GP potentially not accept results diagnosis obtained from a private provider?
- We are unable to comment as this would be down the individual GP practice, however we are aware that private Essential Shared Care Agreements (ESCA) are not usually accepted. Many private services do not conform to NICE Guidance which is our understanding why GPs are not normally amenable to their assessments.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance