

Our Ref: NG/RM/25050
Date: 28th February 2025

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Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 2nd February 2025. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

I am submitting a Freedom of Information request under the FOI Act 2000 on behalf of ADHD Pirates CIC. We are a non-profit organisation supporting adults with ADHD and advocating for improved services.

To better understand ADHD service provision in Staffordshire, please provide the following data:

1. ADHD Referrals & Waiting Times

- The number of ADHD referrals (adults vs. children/young people) per year over the last five years.

We are unable to provide CYP figures due to this data being enmeshed within core CAMHS data. Our Adult ADHD service commenced in July 2023, and we are unable to provide information prior to this period.

Referrals received for Adult ADHD:

- **July 2023 to 31st March 2024: 1,407**
- **1st April 2024 to 31st Jan 2025: 1,926**
- How many referrals are accepted vs. rejected?

At the close of January 2025, 470 of the referrals received were closed following screening as it was identified they were not on the correct clinical pathway.

- Average waiting time from GP referral to first ADHD assessment. **255 days.**
- Average waiting time from assessment to formal diagnosis. **197 days**

- Is any interim support available while people wait for assessment? **As a neurodivergent assessment and diagnostic service, we are not able to offer support to our wait list**

2. Post-Diagnosis ADHD Support

- What happens after an ADHD diagnosis?
 - Percentage of diagnosed patients who receive:
 - Any treatment or support (medication, therapy, coaching, occupational support).
 - Non-medication support (e.g., therapy, ADHD coaching, peer support).
 - Number of ADHD patients who receive no follow-up treatment or support.

All service users who receive a diagnosis with the Adult ADHD Team receive the offer of treatment via medication, psychoeducational support and their treatment decisions are discussed in detail with them. This is an individual decision, and we support all our service users to seek the best treatment option for their needs.

3. ADHD & Mental Health Services

- Are people with existing mental health conditions (e.g., anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder) routinely screened for ADHD?

No, Mental Health services screen all service users for mental health presentations. Should a query regarding underlying/ undiagnosed ADHD be raised, they are able to refer to the Adult ADHD Team for assessment.

- How many ADHD referrals come from NHS mental health services rather than GPs?
- Are ADHD patients being referred to general mental health teams rather than ADHD-specific services?

All referrals to the Adult ADHD team must be agreed to/ originate with the GP due to the Essential Shared Care Agreements (ESCAs) implications should a diagnosis be given and medication sought as a treatment option.

4. Long-Term ADHD Care

- Do NHS ADHD services offer ongoing follow-ups after diagnosis?

Yes, should a service user be diagnosed as having ADHD by our ADHD service they remain with that service and are offered treatment via pharmacological intervention and/or psychosocial support.

- Are ADHD patients discharged from NHS ADHD services after diagnosis? If so, how long after?

No, the Adult ADHD Team have been commissioned to provide treatment for 364 service users they have diagnosed as having ADHD.

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