

Our Ref: NG/RM/25260
Date: 15th August 2025

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Deputy Director of Governance
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ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 22nd July 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:

Dear North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust,

This is a Freedom of Information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "Act"). Please provide the following information you have pertaining to ADHD and Autism assessments and post-diagnostic services within your Trust / Health Board.

I have included tables below so you can see how the data should be broken down. However, if possible, please use the excel spreadsheet attached to the request to input the data.

1. Please provide your total annual spend and total number of patients (for each of the last three financial years) on ADHD and Autism assessments, broken down by age categories as listed below.

**For definition of "third party private providers" please see below. An example list of providers (for ADHD) can be found [here](#)*

TOTAL		Apr-22-Mar-23	Apr-23-Mar-24	Apr-24-Mar-25
ADHD assessments – patients 18 years old and over	Total number of patients	*	**155	352
	Total annual spend			

ADHD assessments – patients	Total number of patients	**	**	**
	Total annual spend			
Autism assessments - patients 18 years old and over	Total number of patients	98	109	119
	Total annual spend			
Autism assessments - patients <18 years old	Total number of patients	179	291	352
	Total annual spend			£403,600

*The data for patients 18 years old and over is only available from November 2023 which is when the Adult ADHD team became operational.

As the Trust is commissioned via a block contract it does not collect data in the format requested. The costs that have been provided are for independent sector commissioned by the Trust.

- For Apr-24-Mar-25, please split out the total number of patients / annual spend from question 1 by those delivered in-house vs those delivered by third party private providers* (for Apr-24-Mar-25). Please use one row for each third-party private provider and please also include the pathway / contract type for each third-party private provider (e.g. block contract, right to choose):

Provider	Pathway	Apr-24-Mar-25				
		ADHD – 18 years old and over patient numbers	ADHD –	Autism – 18 years old and over patient numbers	Autism – 18 years old patient numbers	Total annual spend
Example: Provider A	Right to Choose	X	X	X	X	£Xk
Example: Provider B	Block contract	X	X	X	X	£Xk

Example: In-house delivery	n/a	X	X	X	X	n/a
Total (should align with question 1 total for Apr-24- Mar-25)		X	X	X	X	£Xk

As the Trust is commissioned via a block contract it does not collect data in the format requested.

- For Apr-24- Mar-25, please provide your total annual spend on the following post-diagnostic services. Please find definitions for post-diagnostic services at the end of the request. Please include volumes where your Trust / Health Board has commissioned third party provider(s) to deliver the service.

Post diagnostic services are under a block contract and data is not available in the format requested and neither so for the tendered activity.

- What is the FTE of employed clinicians in the Trust / Health Board who can conduct ADHD / Autism assessments, or prescribe ADHD medications? If possible, please split by role type. Please provide answers based on FTE (rather than headcount). Please exclude vacancies.

	ADHD assessments	Autism assessments	ADHD prescriptions
Psychiatrists			
Paediatricians			
Specialist nurses			
Speech and language therapists			
Clinical psychologists			
Social workers			

Chair: Janet Dawson
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
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Other			
Total (FTE)			

Unfortunately, this information is not held in an easily accessible format and would require a manual trawl of records. We believe that the cost of collating the information in order to respond to your request would exceed the threshold of £450 as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate limit Fees) Regulations 2004. As a result we are refusing your request under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000.

Please provide the current number of patients, that are currently waiting for an ADHD or Autism assessment at your Trust / Health Board. Please also provide the average (mean) time spent on the wait list before receiving an assessment at your Trust / Health Board. Please include the date which your figures are based on.

	ADHD assessments	Autism assessments
Number of patients (18 years old and over)	3013	464
Average wait time (18 years old and over)	370 days	759 days
Number of patients	**	2592
Average wait time	**	646 days

****Currently CAMHS ADHD referrals are subsumed within our Core CAMHS Community Mental Health teams. As we are unable to extract ADHD specific referrals from our Core CAMHS Community Mental Health teams referrals, we are unable to provide a response to the requestor in relation to ADHD patients under the age of 18. We are working towards having a specific CAMHS ADHD service which will allow us to fulfil requests of this nature in the future.**

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