

Our Ref: NG/RM/25098
Date: 3rd April 2025

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 11th March 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 this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please provide information regarding ADHD diagnoses in children and young people under North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust CAMHS within the last five years. Specifically, I would like to request the following data:

1. ADHD Diagnoses by Gender
 - The number of girls diagnosed with ADHD compared to boys from 2019 to the present.

The Trust does hold this information but not a reportable format, to supply this information would require a manual trawl. 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.

2. Complaints Related to Misdiagnosis or Missed Diagnosis
 - The number of complaints received regarding misdiagnosis or missed diagnosis of ADHD in girls within the same timeframe.

The Trust received 9 complaints in the past 5 years relating to ADHD specifically.

Breakdown information has been withheld using an absolute exemption under Section 40(2) as the patient numbers are low and therefore there is a risk of identifying individual patients.

3. Diagnostic Criteria and Gender Bias
 - The diagnostic criteria used for ADHD assessments.

Chair: Janet Dawson
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
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- Whether the criteria consider potential gender biases in ADHD presentation and diagnosis.

The Trust does hold this information but not a reportable format, to supply this information would require a manual trawl. 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.

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