

Our Ref: NG/RM/26078
Date: 13th April 2026

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 14th March 2026. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

Please can you provide the information below under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If exact data are not held, please provide the nearest available figures or best available estimates, and specify whether they are estimates.

Where figures are not held in the requested format, please provide them in the closest format available.

Definitions

- "CYP" means clients aged 17 and younger
- "ADHD diagnostic assessment requests" means referrals received requesting an ADHD diagnostic assessment, regardless of whether the referral was later accepted, redirected, or rejected (where this is the easiest way for your Trust to extract data)
- If your CYP ADHD diagnostic assessments are delivered via a combined neurodevelopmental service (e.g. ADHD/Autism), please answer using the closest equivalent service data

If answering the full request would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please provide responses to the questions that can be answered within the limit and advise how the request might be refined.

Recent referral numbers (demand)

1. How many ADHD diagnostic assessment requests were received by your Trust's specialist CYP ADHD service in:
 - a) Calendar year 2025 (or previous financial year if calendar year data not available). **1346**

b) Oct–Dec 2025 (last 3 months of 2025). **688**

2. If it is not possible to separate ADHD diagnostic assessment requests from Autism diagnostic assessment requests, please provide the total combined referrals (ADHD and Autism) for: **N/A**

a) Calendar year 2025 (or previous financial year if calendar year data not available). **N/A**

b) Oct–Dec 2025 (last 3 months of 2025). **N/A**

Total number waiting (waiting list size)

3. Please provide the estimated number of children and young people currently waiting for an ADHD diagnostic assessment as of 31 December 2025 (or nearest date available), split into:

a) Children and young people waiting to be assessed within the Trust's own service. **486**

b) Children and young people referred for assessment via Right to Choose providers, if recorded/held by the Trust. **The Trust does not hold Right to Choose waiting figures.**

(If your Trust does not hold Right to Choose waiting figures, please confirm this)

Workforce capacity (establishment, staffing, sickness)

a) How many funded FTE posts are specifically allocated to CYP ADHD diagnostic assessment work within your Trust? **0 - no specific funding allocated.**

b) How many of these funded FTE posts are currently filled (please provide headcount and FTE if available)? **N/A**

c) How many staff involved in ADHD diagnostic work are currently on long-term sick leave? (If fewer than 5, please state "<5".) **<5**

d) Please provide the professional background of staff conducting ADHD diagnostic assessments, including headcount and FTE where available: **6 Mental Health Nurses**

- Psychiatrists
- Clinical Psychologists
- Counselling Psychologists
- Paediatricians
- Mental Health Nurses
- Pharmacists
- Other (please specify)

- a) For staff conducting CYP ADHD assessments, please indicate how many years' experience they have in ADHD diagnostic assessment work, grouped into bands such as 0–1 / 2–3 / 4–5 / 6–10 / 10+ years.

- 0-1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6-10

(If exact years of experience are not held centrally, please provide the closest available estimate known to service management)

Training & competence

4. How many assessors have completed additional ADHD-specific diagnostic training (formal course attendance recorded by the Trust/ service)? **3**

Supervision and quality assurance

5. What ADHD-specific clinical supervision arrangements are in place for ADHD assessors (frequency, supervisor role, format)? A brief description is sufficient. **In line with Trust policy**

Productivity expectations (capacity expectations)

6. How many ADHD diagnostic assessments are assessors (if full-time) expected or typically able to complete on average per month? **32**

(If expectations differ by professional group, please provide ranges or separate figures where available)

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