

## Freedom of Information request 299-23

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### Request

#### QUESTIONS FOCUSED ON ADULT ADHD SERVICES

1. For your financial years 2022-23 and 2021-22 please can you tell us:
  - a. For each of those years how many adult assessments for ADHD were done?
    - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.
  - b. For each of those years what was the average waiting time (in weeks) for adults who had an assessment for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).
    - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.
  - c. For each of those years how many adult ADHD referrals were rejected prior to the individual receiving an assessment?
    - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.
  - d. For each of those years how many adults were waiting for an ADHD Assessment at the end of the year.
    - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.

#### QUESTIONS FOCUSED ON CHILD ADHD SERVICES

2. For your financial years 2022-23 and 2021-22 please can you tell us:
  - a. For each of those years how many child assessments for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) were done?
    - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.
  - b. For each of those years what was the average waiting time (in weeks) for children who had an assessment for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).
    - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.
  - c. For each of those years how many child ADHD referrals were rejected prior to assessment?
    - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.
  - d. For each of those years how many children were waiting for an ADHD Assessment at the end of the year.
    - i. If you have the data and it won't take us over the costs limit please can you break this down by gender.

#### GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR ORGANISATION AND ITS ADHD SERVICES

3. With relation to the present time (reflecting the most recent data that you have). Please can you answer the following questions:
  - a. With regards to your adult ADHD services.
    - i. Do you currently have a commissioned adult ADHD assessment service?
    - ii. How many adults do you have waiting for an adult ADHD assessment?
    - iii. What is your current expected waiting time (in weeks) for an adult ADHD Assessment?
    - iv. What is your current longest waiting time for an adult ADHD Assessment?
    - v. What is your process for reviewing and deciding whether to accept or reject adults who have been referred for an ADHD assessment.
    - vi. Is your organisation confident that it is satisfying the NICE guidelines for adults with ADHD?
  - b. With regards to your child ADHD services
    - i. Do you currently have a commissioned child ADHD Assessment service?
    - ii. How many children do you have waiting for a child ADHD assessment?
    - iii. What is your current expected waiting time (in weeks) for a child ADHD Assessment?
    - iv. What is your current longest waiting time for a child ADHD Assessment?
    - v. What is your process for reviewing and deciding whether to accept or reject children who have been referred for an ADHD assessment.
    - vi. Is your organisation confident that it is satisfying the NICE guidelines for children with ADHD?
  - c. Information on your financial year.
    - i. What are the dates of your financial year 2022-23.
    - ii. What are the dates of your financial year 2021-22.

## Response

1. Adult patients referred for ADHD assessments are accepted on to the waiting list for ADHD if they have a co-morbidity as well as potential ADHD and therefore meet the criteria for Secondary Care. However, these accepted referrals are not marked as assessments specifically for ADHD so this information cannot be pulled from an information system. If a referral has potential undiagnosed ADHD only, they are given a self-help resource pack and discharged and do not appear on waiting lists as accepted referrals. It is not possible to define adult referrals for ADHD assessments as this data is not recorded on information systems and would only be available from patient notes. To extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.
2. For patients under 18 years of age NHS Borders cannot provide the number of referrals for ADHD assessment as cases are only categorised as Neurodevelopmental Assessments. These assessments could be for reasons other than ADHD, e.g., Autism Spectrum Disorder or Learning Difficulties. We cannot split out referrals for ADHD assessment only without recourse to patient notes. Therefore, this information is not held electronically. The data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.
3. ADULT ADHD SERVICES
  - i. NHS Borders does not have a commissioned adult ADHD assessment service.
  - ii. For the reasons given in the answer to Question 1, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
  - iii. For the reasons given in the answer to Question 1, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
  - iv. For the reasons given in the answer to Question 1, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
  - v. NHS Borders currently review the referral and use the Adult Community Mental Health criteria. The patient must meet the Secondary Care referral criteria to have an ADHD assessment.
  - vi. NHS Borders is not confident that we currently meet all the guidelines within secondary care.

## CHILD ADHD SERVICES

- i. NHS Borders CAMH service is a fully integrated assessment and treatment service which provides support to children and young people in the service. We do not have a commissioned service.
- ii. For the reasons given in the answer to Question 2, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
- iii. For the reasons given in the answer to Question 2, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
- iv. For the reasons given in the answer to Question 2, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
- v. NHS Borders CAMHS have a Multidisciplinary Triage meeting which considers all referrals to the service equitably.
- vi. NHS Borders is confident that we are compliant with both SIGN and NICE Guidelines ( NG87)

## FINANCIAL YEAR DATES

- i. 2022-23 01/04/22-31/03/23
- ii. 2021-22 01/04/21-31/03/22

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or [foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk).

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **299-23** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.