

Freedom of Information request 385-23

Request

For each NHS Region/board:

1. Do you have local provisions for all to receive NHS ADHD services? If no, and if relevant, under the NICE guidelines please detailon alternate services which the NHS will fund.
2. Current waiting time for NHS adult ADHD diagnosis
3. Current waiting time for NHS child ADHD diagnosis
4. Number of adults on waiting list for ADHD diagnosis
5. Number of adults on waiting list for ADHD diagnosis
6. Based on the individual who is currently on the waiting list, what is the longest so far a patient has been waiting for a diagnosis.
7. How are the waiting list ordered? (i.e. first come first served? or are patients added based on urgency of how symptoms affect them, once on waiting list is it position fixed or can they be bumped down or up?)
8. If someone moves out of your region are they removed from the waiting list?
9. If someone moves into the region do they have to begin at the bottom of the waiting list all over again?
10. Budget value in GBP and percentage allocated to ADHD services
11. Do you operate under 'Right to Choose' (i.e. patients can choose where to get ADHD diagnosis funded by NHS, and can be referred to certain private providers with NHS contracts for diagnoses if NHS waiting list are long)
12. If relevant, cost to the NHS of using private practices for diagnosis
13. Do you accept private diagnoses and shared care? (i.e. patient seeks private diagnosis due to long NHS waiting lists, will GP then accept this diagnosis and allow patient to receive NHS prescription rather than private?)
14. How many staff are trained to diagnose and treat ADHD within your region.
15. Are you making any improvements to these services/do you have any plans to improve these services.
16. Does the region have targets relating to ADHD care and the aforementioned points? If so what are these? Are they being met?

17. If a patient was presenting with severe depression and based on the ADHD pre assessment undertaken by a GP, they showed high likelihood of having ADHD. Would this affect any of the answers to the above points? I.e. would they have access to more support/earlier ADHD diagnosis

Response

1. NHS Borders complete an assessment for, and diagnosis of, ADHD where clinically indicated and when referral criteria is met.
2. NHS Borders do not record waiting time for a diagnosis of ADHD in an adult, therefore this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
3. NHS Borders do not record waiting time for a diagnosis of ADHD in a child, therefore this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
4. 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.
5. This is a repeat of Question 4 above.
6. NHS Borders do not record waiting time for a diagnosis of ADHD, therefore this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
7. Patient's referrals are triaged using the agreed referral criteria.
8. If the patient moved to another NHS board, they would be removed from the NHS Borders waiting list if their new address was out with the catchment area, however the referral would be passed to the NHS board the patient moves to.
9. If an adult patient was transferred from another board the referral criteria would be applied when the referral is received. This referral could come from either the other board or the patients new GP. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) transition between the equivalent services.
10. NHS Borders does not have a budget specific to ADHD services.
11. NHS Borders patients cannot choose where to get an ADHD diagnosis funded by NHS.
12. N/A
13. NHS Borders accept Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) or National Institute for Health & Care Excellence (NICE) diagnosis where the information suggests the patient has been compliant.
14. Diagnoses are completed by way of multi-disciplinary diagnostic processes involving many members of the team.
15. NHS Borders are currently improving our pathway within secondary mental health and with multi agency colleagues.
16. NHS Borders does not have targets within secondary mental health care relating to ADHD.
17. If the patient met the criteria for secondary mental health care and had a significant mental health issue they would have access to ADHD interventions and treatment.

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.

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 **385-23** 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.