

**Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act – 2022.037  
Released – 24 May 2022**

Thank you for your email received 9 May 2022 requesting information regarding ASD waiting times.

Please find detailed below a summary of your request, together with our response.

**Summary of your original request:**

**QUESTION 1**

**A. How many children are currently waiting to receive a first assessment appointment?**

We currently have 1674, this includes all new referrals for community paediatrics and not just ASD.

**B. What is the average wait time for these children, starting from the point of initial referral?**

This is currently approx. 8 months from referral to initial assessment.

**C. How many of these children have been waiting longer than 13 weeks?**

We measure our waits in blocks of 4 weeks, there are 1,158 waiting over 12 weeks.

**D. What are the longest three wait times for these children?**

There are 10 waiting 32-34 weeks, 74, 30-32 weeks and 54 between 28 and 30 weeks.

**QUESTION 2**

**A. How many children are currently waiting to receive a second assessment appointment?**

We are not able to extract this data.

**B. What is the average wait time for these children to receive a second appointment, since their first appointment?**

This varies due to individual circumstances and pathways therefore we cannot provide an exact answer.

**C. What are the longest three wait times for these children, since their first appointment?**

We cannot extract this data due to the aforementioned.

Chair John Goulston Acting Chief Executive Gordon Flack

Trust HQ The Oast, Unit D, Hermitage Court, Hermitage Lane, Barming, near Maidstone, Kent ME16 9NT

### **QUESTION 3**

**A. How many children are currently waiting to receive a diagnosis (ie. waiting for an assessment outcome to find out whether they do or do not have ASD)?**

There are 2379 children across North and West Kent.

**B. What is the average wait time, since the point of initial referral?**

3 years is the maximum wait.

**C. What are the longest three wait times for these children, since their initial referral?**

We are unable to extract this data, please see further explanation below.

### **QUESTION 4**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2022, how many children with suspected autism received a first assessment appointment?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive a first assessment appointment, since their initial referral?**

**C. What were the longest three wait times for these children to receive a first diagnostic appointment, since their initial referral??**

### **QUESTION 5**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2022, how many children with suspected autism received a second assessment appointment?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive a second diagnostic appointment, since their first appointment?**

**C. What were the longest three wait times for these children to receive a second assessment appointment, since their first appointment?**

### **QUESTION 6**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2022, how many children with suspected autism received an ASD diagnosis?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive an ASD diagnosis, since their initial referral?**

**C. What were the longest three wait times for these children to receive an ASD diagnosis, since their initial referral?**

### **QUESTION 7**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2021, how many children with suspected autism received a first assessment appointment?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive a first assessment appointment, since their initial referral?**

### **QUESTION 8**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2021, how many children with suspected autism received a second assessment appointment?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive a second diagnostic appointment, since their first appointment?**

### **QUESTION 9**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2021, how many children with suspected autism received an ASD diagnosis?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive an ASD diagnosis, since their initial referral?**

**QUESTION 10**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2020, how many children with suspected autism received a first assessment appointment?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive a first assessment appointment, since their initial referral?**

**QUESTION 11**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2020, how many children with suspected autism received a second assessment appointment?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive a second diagnostic appointment, since their first appointment?**

**QUESTION 13**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2020, how many children with suspected autism received an ASD diagnosis?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive an ASD diagnosis, since their initial referral?**

**QUESTION 14**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2019, how many children with suspected autism received a first assessment appointment?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive a first assessment appointment, since their initial referral?**

**QUESTION 15**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2019, how many children with suspected autism received a second assessment appointment?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive a second diagnostic appointment, since their first appointment?**

**QUESTION 16**

**A. In the year up to 31 March 2019, how many children with suspected autism received an ASD diagnosis?**

**B. What was the average wait time for these children to receive an ASD diagnosis, since their initial referral?**

Unfortunately we are not able to provide information in respect of questions 4-16 as we are not able to extract this information from our systems. We have only recently started to add in diagnostic fields into the system for us to be able to pull out data on numbers of diagnoses given, therefore at this stage we are not able to provide this data.

Also, it is difficult to be able to state when a child with suspected autism had a first assessment or second assessment etc as our referrals are received querying many things so first and second assessments may be looking at much wider concerns that just focusing on autism. We count our waits from when a child enters on an ASD pathway not regarding accessing the service. The ASD waiting lists do not have children being seen regularly, it is children awaiting a specific assessment as determined by earlier assessments.