

**Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act Reference 2022.132  
Released 26 August 2022**

Thank you for your email received 11 August 2022 requesting information regarding ADHD referrals.

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

**Summary of your original request:**

- 1. The current wait time for an undiagnosed child (under the age of 18) to see a psychiatrist for ADHD after being referred from a GP on the NHS.**
  - a. Please can you also provide the average wait time for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust does not hold this information because we do not employ any psychiatrists. Should a child require such a referral, we would refer them to the children and young people's mental health service. Therefore, this question would need to be redirected to trusts running that service. In Kent this would be the Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust.
  
- 2. The current wait time for an undiagnosed adult to see a psychiatrist for ADHD after being referred from a GP on the NHS.**
  - Average current wait time for an online ADHD assessment (via Psychiatry UK) is 4-6 months.
  - Average current wait time for a face to face ADHD assessment (via Psicon) is 9 months.
  - a. Please can you also provide the average wait time for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

The Kent and Medway Neurodevelopmental Service (K&M ND Service) is unable to provide this historic information due to commencing service in April 2022.
  
- 3. The number of children (under the age of 18) with an ADHD diagnosis. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**

2,863 children with an ADHD diagnosis are currently on our waiting list. To provide a breakdown by gender would require a manual review of records. This would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt. I have detailed below the relevant excerpt:

**Section 12**

12. — (1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

Chair John Goulston Chief Executive Mairead McCormick

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

- a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

Our systems only allow us to run reports to show us the current waiting list position, which means we do not hold the historical information you have requested.

- 4. The number of adults (over the aged of 18 with an ADHD diagnosis. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**

The K&M ND Service commenced in April 2022. At this time, no diagnostic assessments have been completed and therefore we hold no data to reflect diagnosis rates.

- a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

The K&M ND Service is unable to provide this historic information due to commencing service in April 2022.

- 5. How many adult assessments were done in the last year. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**

To date no ADHD diagnostic assessments have been completed under the K&M ND Service contract. Referrals have been received and processed for an assessment to be completed however these referrals remain on a waiting list for assessment to be completed.

- a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

The K&M ND Service is unable to provide this historic information due to commencing service in April 2022.

- 6. How many children assessments were done in the last year. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**

3,247 children assessments have been undertaken so far in 2022. To provide a breakdown by gender would require a manual review of records. This would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

- a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

We only hold historical information for the last two calendar years. To provide older historical information and the breakdown by gender requires a manual review of records. This would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt. Please see below the data for 2020 and 2021:

- 2021: 5,490 children assessments were undertaken
- 2020: 4,587 children assessments were undertaken

- 7. In the last year how many adult ADHD assessment referrals have been rejected. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**

20 ADHD assessments have been declined by the K&M ND Service since 01/04/2022. Each of these 20 referrals rejected was received as part of a Dual Autism and ADHD assessment request and were declined due to there being no clinical rationale for an assessment being carried out:

- Male: 6 rejected referrals
- Female: 14 rejected referrals

- a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

The K&M ND Service is unable to provide this historic information due to commencing service in April 2022.

- 8. In the last year how many children ADHD assessment referrals have been rejected. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**

- a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

We do not hold information relating to the number of rejected ADHD assessment referrals.

- 9. In the last year how many adults with an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**

The K&M ND Service to date has no recorded ADHD diagnoses and therefore are unable to provide any data relating to subsequent deaths.

- a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

The K&M ND Service is unable to provide this historic information due to commencing service in April 2022.

- 10. In the last year how many children with an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**

- a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

We do not hold information relating to the number of children with an ADHD diagnosis whose death was recorded as suicide.

- 11. In the last year how many adults on the waiting list for an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**

There are no records within the K&M ND Service system, that any patients have died as a result of suicide since 01/04/2022 while on a waiting list for an ADHD assessment.

- a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

The K&M ND Service is unable to provide this historic information due to commencing service in April 2022.

- 12. In the last year how many children on the waiting list for an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.**

- a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.**

We do not hold information relating to the number of children on the waiting list for an ADHD diagnosis whose death was recorded as suicide.