

Date 16/06/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 10132

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
Extension 35687
Direct Line 0131 465 5687
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richard.mutch@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – CAMHS REFERRALS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to CAMHS referrals.

Question:

- How many referrals have been made to CAMHS from GP for primary school aged children in each of the years 2021/22/23/24 & 25 so far?

Answer:

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of Referrals	1,333	1,407	1,796	1,715	733

Table 1: Referrals to CAMHS from GP for primary school aged children

Question:

- Of these referrals, how many were not accepted by CAMHS and referred back to primary care (GP)?

Answer:

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Referred Back to GP	-	-	402	384	190

Table 2: Referrals not accepted by CAMHS and referred back to primary care

Question:

- How many referrals to CAMHS were made from GP for secondary school aged children in the years 2021/22/23/24 and 25 so far?

Answer:

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of Referrals	1,772	1,693	1,905	1,864	765

Table 3: Referrals to CAMHS from GP for secondary school aged children

Headquarters
Mainpoint
102 West Port
Edinburgh EH3 9DN

Chair Professor John Connaghan CBE
Chief Executive Professor Caroline Hiscox
Lothian NHS Board is the common name of Lothian Health Board

Question:

4. Of these referrals, how many were not accepted by CAMHS and referred back to primary care?

Answer:

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Referred Back to GP	-	-	336	257	136

Table 4: Referrals not accepted by CAMHS and referred back to secondary care

Question:

5. Of the referrals that were accepted, what was the average number of appointments with were attended prior to being discharged?

Answer:

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Average of No. of Attendances	18.7	19.6	18.1	15.3	15.3

Table 5: Av. Number of attended appointments for CAMHS patients by year of discharge.

Notes on the data:

1. Due to how the triage outcome for referrals was recorded prior to 2023, we are unable to state specifically which referrals were referred back to primary care (GP) for 2022/23.
2. For question 5 we have provided the average appts for CAMHS patients who were referred and went on to receive treatment by year of discharge. The patients in this data set do not link directly with the patients in previous tables but the figures are indicative of the average number of attended appointments in these years.

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office online appeals service at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal. If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhsllothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive