

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – CAMHS WAITS**

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

Question:

1. Of those children and young people who started treatment at CAMH services in 2025-26, how many waited (i) 12 months, (ii) 13 months, (iii) 14 months, (iv) 15 months, (v) 16 months, (vi) 17 months, (vii) 18 months, (viii) 19 months, (ix) 20 months, (x) 21 months, (xi) 22 months, (xii) 23 months, (xiii) 24 months or more, to start their treatment following a referral.

Answer:

**Please note the response is based on 4 week increments rather than calendar months**

Weeks waited from referral to treatment (2025-2026)													
	53-56	57-60	61-64	65-68	69-72	73-76	77-80	81-84	85-88	89-92	93-96	97-100	101+
No of CYP	76	72	81	67	64	28	10	6	5<	5<	5<	0	12

NB: 2025-2026 includes April-February inclusive.

Question:

2. What was the longest (number of days) any child or young person who started treatment at CAMH services in 2025-26 waited to begin their treatment following a referral.

Answer:

We are not able to give the longest waiting time as this could lead to the identification of the individual patient involved. Since we do not have their consent to release their personal data, the information is exempt under Section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 – personal information.

Question:

3. Of those children and young people currently waiting to start treatment at CAMH services, how many have been waiting (i) 12 months, (ii) 13 months, (iii) 14 months, (iv) 15 months, (v) 16



months, (vi) 17 months, (vii) 18 months, (viii) 19 months, (ix) 20 months, (x) 21 months, (xi) 22 months, (xii) 23 months, (xiii) 24 months or more, to start their treatment following a referral.

Answer:

Weeks waiting (as of 11/03/2026)													
	53-56	57-60	61-64	65-68	69-72	73-76	77-80	81-84	85-88	89-92	93-96	97-100	101+
No of CYP	12	10	5<	5<	5<	5<	5<	5<	0	0	0	0	5<

Question:

4. What is the longest (number of days) any child or young person currently waiting to start treatment at CAMH services has been waiting to begin their treatment following a referral.

Answer:

We are not able to give the longest waiting time as this could lead to the identification of the individual patient involved. Since we do not have their consent to release their personal data, the information is exempt under Section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 – personal information.

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](http://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.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

**ALISON MACDONALD**  
**Executive Director, Nursing**  
Cc: Chief Executive