

Dear

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – ADULT NEURODEVELOPMENTAL SERVICE**

I write in response to your request for information in relation to the adult neurodevelopmental service in West Lothian.

Question:

1. How many patients are currently on the West Lothian Adult Neurodevelopmental disorders waiting list?

Answer:

As of 10 April 2026 there are 4,009 adult patients on the neurodevelopmental waiting list in West Lothian.

Question:

2. How many clinicians are currently available to provide appointments for patients waiting on the West Lothian Adult Neurodevelopmental disorders Service waiting list as of March 2026?

Answer:

4 clinicians currently provide appointments for patients on this waiting list.

Question:

3. What is the Speciality breakdown of clinical staff currently providing appointments for patients waiting on the West Lothian Adult Neurodevelopmental disorders Service waiting list as of March 2026. Broken down by numbers of staff from each clinical speciality category?

Answer:

The staff breakdown is as follows:

- 1 Consultant Psychiatrist (0.1 whole time equivalent)
- 1 Clinical Fellow (0.5 whole time equivalent)
- 2 Community Psychiatric Nurses (0.625 whole time equivalent)

Question:

4. What is the average wait for a patient from the point of being added to the West Lothian Adult Neurodevelopmental disorders waiting list to first appointment with a clinician?

Answer:

The median wait for patients currently waiting, is 107 weeks. For patients seen for a first appointment between April 2025 and March 2026, the median wait was 109 weeks.

Question:

5. Since patients were informed of a review of the West Lothian NDD list in September 2025 what percentage of those on the waiting list have been contacted to confirm they wish to remain on the list as of March 2026?

Answer:

The planned waiting list validation process has not yet commenced. It is now planned to start the validation of waiting lists from 20 April 2026.

Question:

6. Can you confirm that NHS Lothian / West Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership are continuing to give appointments to adults referred to the NDD waiting list who have been referred for ADHD-only assessments and there has been no pause in the provision of appointments in order to only prioritise those with co-occurring mental health conditions.

Answer:

We can confirm that there has been no pause in appointments being offered to patients seeking ADHD only assessment. If there are concerns about co-occurring mental health conditions while a patient is waiting for a neurodevelopmental disorder assessment, the patient would be placed on the psychiatry general adult waiting list and prioritised by triage for general adult review, rather than waiting to be seen by the adult neurodevelopmental disorder service. However, we would not prioritise referrals as urgent just because of co-occurring conditions, particularly if that condition was stable or already under treatment.

Sometimes, as part of an admission, or ongoing review while under the care of the Community Mental Health Team or Acute Care and Support Team, or as a psychiatric outpatient, a patient may receive a diagnosis of autism or ADHD without having to wait on the neurodevelopmental disorder waiting list.

Question:

7. How many patients on the West Lothian Adult Neurodevelopmental disorders waiting list have received an ADHD only assessment, in the last 12 months, to March 2026.

Answer:

We are not able to provide this information, as the waiting list does not specify which neurodevelopmental disorder the patient has been referred for. Information may be held in

individual patient records, but in order to provide the information you request it would be necessary to review each patient record over the period you have specified, requiring significant resources. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, NHS Lothian is not required to respond to your request if the resources required to do so equate to more than £600 in cost.

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 <https://www.foi.scot/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 reviewer at the address at the top 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>

Yours sincerely

**ALISON MACDONALD**  
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Cc: Chief Executive