

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – ADHD AND AUTISM ASSESSMENTS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to ADHD and Autism assessments.

Question:

- I write to request the current and past waiting times for ADHD and Autism assessments for children in Scotland. This should include the number of children on the list and period of time from referral until assessment.

This refers to children up to and including 15 years of age. I would like this information for each year from 2019 to current date and broken down by each health board if possible.

I would also like information on the number and identity of all health boards who accept the findings of privately funded assessments and offer appropriate treatment to children funded by the NHS.

Answer:

For children and young people, there are no ADHD / ASD specific waiting lists. All patients are on non-specific "Neurodevelopmental Assessment" lists. We are therefore unable to provide an accurate figure for wait times to assessment or number of children currently waiting specifically for an ADHD, ASD assessment.

Under the Freedom of Information Act NHS Lothian is not required to create new records to enable it to respond to your enquiry. This information is not collated or held in aggregate form and it would be necessary to review all case files relating to patients over the period you have requested to assemble the information you seek. Even if NHS Lothian did this – and there would be significant cost implications in doing so – it would be unable to respond in full to your request. The information requested is therefore exempt under section 12.1 – Cost.

I am sorry I cannot help with your request.

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*



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.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive