

FOI.14053 - Attachment 1

1. How many referrals to were made to CAMHS services from 2018-2024? Please give individual figures for each year.

The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of CAMHS referrals received, during the 2018 to 2023 calendar years and the period 1 January to 29 February 2024.

Calendar year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of referrals	2207	2470	2167	2655	2486	2553	427

Please note:- the data for 1-19 March 2024 is not currently available.

2. How many (already) diagnosed autistic children/teenagers were referred to your CAMHS services from 2018 - 2024? Please give individual figures for each year.

Calendar year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of referrals involving a diagnosed autistic child/teen	Section 12 exemption applied						

2a. If possible, could you also please provide the proportion (%) these referrals made up of the total number of referrals each year?

Calendar year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
What proportion of total referrals involved a diagnosed autistic child/teen?	Section 12 exemption applied						

3. How many referrals were 'rejected' (i.e. not accepted by CAMHS/referred to another service) from 2018-2024? Please give individual figures for each year.

Calendar year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of referrals rejected	710	710	589	816	698	570	109

Please note:- the data for 1-19 March 2024 is not currently available.

3a. If possible, please could you provide information on why the referrals were rejected.

Reason for rejection (Please use as many rows as you like with the reasons)

The UHB provides below, information on why referrals may be rejected.

<p><i>Add each reason on a separate row, going down this column</i></p>	<p>Specialist (S-CAMHS) are focused on the provision of Mental Health Services (MHS) for children and young people (CYP). During the years requested, S-CAMHS maintained the same criteria. However, the service experienced a drop in the number of referrals received in quarter 1 of the 2020/21 financial year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Although this was the case, S-CAMHS has continued to increase their digital footprint; implementing Attend Anywhere as part of the UHB's directive, which has allowed for timely virtual video calls; S-CAMHS also developed a contract with Kooth, an online counselling platform, which has been, and continues to be, offered to all young people waiting for intervention across the service and are offered support at time of rejected referral; other developments include both Consultant Connect and Silvercloud.</p>
	<p>S-CAMHS Service Specification was in operation in 2018 and continues to be in 2024, this sets out the operational standards including referral criteria as set by Welsh Government (WG) for S-CAMHS (Primary and Secondary Mental Health services) in 2020 "Framework for Improvement" NHS Wales Specialist CAMHS Service Framework CAREMORE, reissued in 2021.</p>
	<p>Within the UHB, where a referral does not meet the criteria for a MHS, the S-CAMHS Single Point of Contact clinician would provide advice, support, and signpost to a more relevant agency such as school counselling or Third Sector support. Local Authorities (LAs) and education have been allocated funding to address low level emotional support and wellbeing, this includes substantial funding to expand the School Counselling Services.</p>
	<p>Additionally, some referrals are not accepted as they haven't had a first line intervention (such as a school counsellor). Others aren't accepted because they haven't consented to the referral, don't wish to attend a service, or because another service would be more appropriate (such as due to social need). S-CAMHS are also able to provide consultations to school staff who may be best able to support the CYP in school.</p>

4. How many referrals of diagnosed autistic children/teenagers were 'rejected' from 2018-2024? Please give individual figures for each year.

Calendar year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of referrals rejected involving a diagnosed autistic child/teen	Section 12 exemption applied						

4a. If possible, could you also provide the proportion (%) these rejections made up of the total number of rejections for each year please.

Calendar year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
What proportion of total rejections involved a diagnosed autistic child/teen?	Section 12 exemption applied						