

Reference:	FOI.13835.24
Subject:	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) assessments
Date of Request:	16 February 2024

Requested:

Please may you provide us with answers to the following questions:

1. Do you provide ADHD assessments?
Please specify if this is for children, adults or both.
2. How many people are **currently** on your waiting list for ADHD assessments?
Please break this down between children and adults.
3. How many assessments have you **carried out** every calendar year between 2018 and 2023?
If possible, please break this down between children and adults.
4. How many ADHD referrals did you **receive** each calendar year between 2018 and 2023?
Please break this down between children and adults.
5. How many ADHD referrals did you **accept** each calendar year between 2018 and 2023?
Please break this down between children and adults.
6. What is the (mean) average time patients wait between referral and an assessment for ADHD for each calendar year between 2018 and 2023?
If possible, please break this down between children and adults.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information requested, as it is estimated that the cost of answering your request would exceed the “appropriate limit” as stated in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The “appropriate limit” represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours (or 2½ working days) in determining whether the UHB holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

The UHB does not centrally record all information relating to ADHD for Children and Young People (CYP) and adults. Therefore, in order to provide you with all of the data requested for adults for question 5 and CYP for questions 3 and 6, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all adult and CYP patient records, to identify any information that would fulfil these parts of your request. Additionally, for questions 4 and 5, the UHB would also have to undertake a manual trawl of CYP records for the 2018 and 2019 calendar years, as again this information is not recorded centrally.

The UHB is therefore applying an exemption under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), which provides an exemption from a public authority’s obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit.

However, under Section 16 of the FoIA, we are required as a public authority, to provide advice and assistance so far as it is reasonable to individuals who have made a request under the FoIA. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds below.

1. The UHB confirms that it does provide ADHD assessment for both CYP and adults.
2. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of CYP and adults waiting for an ADHD assessment, as at 31 January 2024.

CYP	485
Adults	3,107

3. A section 12 exemption has been applied for CYP data. However, under Section 16, the UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the number of assessments and reviews carried out by the Adult ADHD Service, during the 2018 through to 2023 calendar years.

Calendar year	Number
2018	12
2019	35
2020	32
2021	75
2022	231
2023	228

4. A section 12 exemption has been applied for CYP data for the 2018 and 2019 calendar years. Therefore, the UHB provides, within the table below, the accessible number of CYP and adult ADHD referrals received, during the 2018 through to 2023 calendar years.

Calendar year	CYP	Adults
2018	Section 12 exemption applied	303
2019		296
2020	138	300
2021	229	644
2022	274	1,071
2023	410	1,614

5. A section 12 exemption has been applied for all adult data, and CYP data for the 2018 and 2019 calendar years. However, the UHB can confirm that the majority of adult ADHD referrals received are accepted.

Therefore, the UHB provides, within the table below, the accessible number of CYP referrals accepted, during the 2020 through to 2023 calendar years.

Calendar year	CYP
2018	Section 12 exemption applied
2019	
2020	138
2021	229
2022	274
2023	659

6. A section 12 exemption has been applied for CYP data. However, the UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the average waiting time in weeks for adults, from referral to assessment for ADHD, during the 2018 through to 2023 calendar years.

Calendar year	Number of weeks waiting
2018	96
2019	70
2020	85
2021	131
2022	142
2023	141