

Reference:	FOI.12685.23
Subject:	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
Date of Request:	17 September 2023

Requested:

1. Number of requested adult assessment appointments (Referrals) within the last four (4) calendar year, including up-to the current date within 2023 if possible. Ideally organised by year.
2. Number of adults awaiting (first) assessment appointments within the last four (4) calendar years. Ideally organised by year. A separate figure of the current number of people on the waiting list would also be greatly appreciated.
3. Number of (first) adult assessment appointments given within the last four (4) calendar years, including up-to the current date within 2023 if possible. Ideally organised by year.
4. Number of psychiatrists capable of assessing & diagnosing ADHD in adults currently working within this department.
5. Expected length of adult ADHD assessments. (Clarification: The average or expected length of an assessment appointment for an adult to reach a diagnosis.)
6. Funding/budget for adult ADHD care & assessments.
7. Number of rejected referrals within the last four (4) calendar years, including up-to the current date within 2023 if possible. Ideally organised by year.

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 Act 2000 and the 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.

In order to provide you with the data requested for question 7, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all adult ADHD patient records, to identify any information that would fulfil this part of your request, as this information is not held 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, the UHB has a duty 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 provides, within the table below, the number of adult ADHD referrals received, during the 2019 to 2022 calendar years and from 1 January to 31 July 2023.

Calendar year	Number
2019	296
2020	300
2021	644
2022	1,071
1 January to 31 July 2023	800

2. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of adults awaiting a first ADHD assessment appointment during the 2019 to 2022 calendar years.

Calendar year	Number
2019	589
2020	574
2021	1,091
2022	1,833

The UHB confirms that as at 31 July 2023, there were two thousand, one hundred and ninety six (2,196) adults on the waiting list for an ADHD assessment.

3. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of first adult ADHD assessments undertaken during the 2019 to 2022 calendar years and from 1 January to 31 July 2023.

Calendar year	Number
2019	35
2020	32
2021	76
2022	231
1 January to 31 July 2023	171

4. The UHB confirms that it currently has one (1) Consultant Psychiatrist that can assess and diagnose ADHD in adults.
5. The UHB confirms that an adult ADHD assessment for non-complex individuals, that is those patients without co-occurring Mental Health difficulties and/or substance misuse or unidentified neurodivergence, takes a minimum of four (4) hours.

However, this does not factor in time for the screening of referrals, Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) discussions to assist with case formulation/diagnosis or time to compile diagnostic reports and dissemination of information to individual and relevant parties with consent.

6. The UHB confirms that the current budget for adult ADHD care and assessment is £82,907.00.
7. Section 12 exemption applied. However, referrals are not routinely rejected.