

Reference:	FOI.9472.22
Subject:	Undiagnosed children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
Date of Request:	26 July 2022

Requested:

For Hywel Dda University Health Board please could you provide the following information:

1. The current wait time for an undiagnosed child (under the age of 18) to see a psychiatrist for ADHD after being referred from a GP on the NHS.
 - a. Please can you also provide the average wait time for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
2. The current wait time for an undiagnosed adult to see a psychiatrist for ADHD after being referred from a GP on the NHS.
 - a. Please can you also provide the average wait time for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
3. The number of children (under the age of 18) with an ADHD diagnosis. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
 - a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
4. The number of adults (over the aged of 18 with an ADHD diagnosis. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
 - a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the last five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
5. How many adult assessments were done in the last year. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
 - a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
6. How many children assessments were done in the last year. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
 - a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
7. In the last year how many adult ADHD assessment referrals have been rejected. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
 - a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.

8. In the last year how many children ADHD assessment referrals have been rejected. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
 - a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
9. In the last year how many adults with an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
 - a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
10. In the last year how many children with an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
 - a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
11. In the last year how many adults on the waiting list for an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
 - a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.
12. In the last year how many children on the waiting list for an ADHD diagnosis had a death recorded as suicide. Please provide the total and (if available) a breakdown by gender.
 - a. Please can you also provide this same information for each of the prior five years, if doing so won't push this request over the cost limit.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide you with all of the information requested relating to adults or for children and young people (CYP), 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 ADHD information for CYP. Therefore, in order to provide you with the requested data for questions 1, 3, 6 and 8, the UHB would need to undertake a manual trawl of all CYP patient records, to identify any information that fulfils your request.

There was no specific adult ADHD service prior to 2017. Therefore, to provide you with the information requested for the 5 years prior to 2021/22, this would also require a manual trawl of adult patient records, to identify if any ADHD assessments were undertaken, as they were not recorded on any databases for this time period.

Additionally, not all of the information relating to ADHD for adults is held centrally. Accordingly, for questions 4, and 7 a manual trawl of adult patient records would be required, to identify the information you require.

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 FoIA. Therefore, the UHB provides the accessible information it holds below.

1. Section 12 exemption applied.
2. The UHB provides, within the table overleaf, the number of adults awaiting an ADHD assessment and the waiting times in weeks, as at 23 August 2022.

Weeks waiting	Number
Less than 12 weeks	219
13 to 17 weeks	79
18 to 25 weeks	156
23 to 35 weeks	162
36 to 51 weeks	204
52 weeks plus	782

- 2a. The UHB confirms that it does not hold the average waiting time data for previous years, as it is recorded on the most recent year.

3. Section 12 exemption applied.
4. Section 12 exemption applied.
5. The UHB provides, within the table below, the number of adult ADHD assessments undertaken, by gender, for the period 1 August 2021 to 31 July 22 and for the previous four (4) years.

1 August to 31 July	Female	Male
2016/17	Section 12 applied	
2017/18	0	*
2018/19	*	*
2019/20	0	0
2020/21	*	6
2021/22	42	72

Where the figures in the tables have been replaced with an asterisk (*), the UHB is unable to provide you with the exact numbers of patients, due to the low number of cases (5 and under), as there is a potential risk of identifying individuals if this was disclosed. The UHB is therefore withholding this detail under Section 40(2) of the FoIA.

This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR), as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles 6 and 9 of the UK GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the Data Protection Act 2018/UK GDPR define personal data as data which relates to a living individual who can be identified solely from that data, or from that data and other information, which is in the possession of the data controller.

6. Section 12 exemption applied.
7. Section 12 exemption applied. However, referrals are not routinely rejected.
8. Section 12 exemption applied.
9. to 12. The UHB regrets to inform you that it does not hold the information requested.

The requested information may be held by the Coroner's Office. We would therefore recommend that you redirect this part of your request to the Freedom of Information Teams within each Local Authority in the UHB's footprint, who may be able to help you with your enquiry. Their details are set out below:

- Information & Data Protection Officer, Carmarthenshire County Council, County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP or by email foia@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
- Complaints & Freedom of Information Team, Ceredigion County Council, Canolfan Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3UE or by email foi@ceredigion.gov.uk
- Information Governance Team, Pembrokeshire County Council, County Hall, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1TP or by email FOI@pembrokeshire.gov.uk