

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/24/026
Assessment and Therapies Waiting Lists

I am reaching out under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information regarding waiting lists for specific assessments and therapies. The requested period is the most current available or the most recent position.

1. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Assessment:

- **What is the current number of people waiting for a CAMHS assessment?**

As at 22 January 2024, there were 141 young people waiting for an assessment within Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health.

- **What is your average waiting time for CAMHS treatment?**

The average wait for assessment is approximately three weeks. The average wait for intervention or treatment is approximately eight weeks.

- **Who is the person responsible for managing these waiting lists?**

After considering your request, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) believes that the data requested is classed as personal data as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018. Its disclosure would be contrary to the data protection principles and constitute unfair and unlawful processing with regard to Articles 5, 6, and 9 of the GDPR. We are therefore withholding this detail under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000). This exemption is absolute and therefore there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

- **Has Cardiff used independent providers to carry out work on the waiting list?**

Yes.

2. Neurodevelopment Assessment:

- **What is the average waiting time for a Neurodevelopmental assessment for children and adults?**

For the integrated autism service, individuals aged over 18 years who have new referrals accepted by the service for diagnostic assessment are now invited to attend the triage clinic. Following opt in, they are sent a triage pre-assessment questionnaire to complete, and when this is returned they are offered an appointment. Currently, the waiting time from return of a completed questionnaire to triage assessment is 3–4 months.

Following a triage assessment by two experienced clinicians, one of the following may happen: either the individual is added to the diagnostic assessment waiting list for a more comprehensive autism assessment;

further assessment is not indicated and so the individual is discharged from the service with recommendations; or the individual has needs that warrant a fast-track appointment due to the way they have presented. The current average waiting time for a full diagnosis assessment is 22 months.

The current mean average waiting time for an ADHD assessment for individuals aged over 18 years is 99 weeks.

The current mean average waiting time for a neurodevelopmental assessment for individuals aged under 18 years is 33–36 months from the date of referral.

- **What is the current number of children and adults waiting for a Neurodevelopmental assessment?**

For the integrated autism service, there are 316 people on the waiting for a full diagnosis assessment, and a further 247 people waiting for a triage assessment. Not all the people on the triage waiting list will require a full diagnosis assessment.

The current number of individuals aged over 18 years on the waiting list for an ADHD assessment is 817.

The current number of individuals aged under 18 years on the waiting list for a neurodevelopmental assessment is 3,136.

- **Who is the person responsible for managing this waiting list?**

The UHB believes the exemption outlined in section 40(2) of the FOIA 2000 to apply here and is therefore withholding this information.

- **Has Cardiff used independent providers to carry out work on the waiting list?**

No.

3. Psychological Therapies:

- **What is the average waiting time for psychological therapies?**

18 weeks.

- **What is the current number of adults awaiting psychological therapy?**

1,509 adults.

- **Who is the person responsible for managing this waiting list?**

The UHB believes the exemption outlined in section 40(2) of the FOIA 2000 to apply here and is therefore withholding this information.

- **Has Cardiff used independent providers to carry out work on the waiting list?**

No.