

05 December 2023

**Our Ref:** RFI 54539

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information in Relation to Diagnosis & Assessment for ADHD Services**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to the above which you requested on 02 November 2023. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your request, thank you for your understanding and forbearance.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Children's Services & Social Work Directorate and the Adult Services Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

If you are unhappy as to how this request has been handled, you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. You should write to the Information Governance Department, Lough House, Ards Community Hospital ([informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net](mailto:informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net)) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, within 20 working days of receipt.

If, after receiving a response, you remain unhappy, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office –Northern Ireland, 3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place, Belfast, BT7 2JB. It is important to note that if you refer any matter to the Information Commissioner, you will need to show evidence of having gone through the Trust's internal review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

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**Rebecca Manning**  
**Information Governance Officer**

**Q1. For the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 please provide the following broken down by calendar year.**

- a) Number of people who sought/referred for an ADHD diagnosis**
- b) Number of individuals who were then referred for assessment**
- c) Number of those assessed who were given an official diagnosis**

A1a. Please see Tables 1 and 2 below for the number of referrals that were received seeking an ADHD assessment.

Table 1 – Children and Young People

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Referrals</b>
2018	806
2019	768
2020	582
2021	734
2022	821

Table 2 – Adults

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Referrals</b>
2018	23
2019	94
2020	240
2021	770
2022	1361

A1b. Please see Tables 3 and 4 below for the number of individuals who were then referred for assessment.

Table 3 – Children and Young People

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number Referred for Assessment</b>
2018	654
2019	658
2020	483
2021	608
2022	707

Table 4 – Adults. Please note, this would also include patients not referred for ADHD but were assessed as appropriate for ADHD Service for Adults (ASA) along with comorbid issues.

Table 4

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number Referred for Assessment</b>
2018	50
2019	158
2020	227
2021	705
2022	1275

A1c. Please see Table 5 below for the number of those assessed who were given an official diagnosis.

Table 5 – Children and Young People

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number Given an Official Diagnosis</b>
2018	386
2019	421
2020	394
2021	436
2022	375

In relation to Adult Services, in 2021 the Trust had recognised the complex and specialised nature of ADHD and the necessity for diagnostic assessments, therefore while no such service has been commissioned or funded, the Trust has moved to set up a specialist clinic with one locum Consultant –ASA. Since 2021, 54 patients have been diagnosed, however priority is afforded to patients transferred to ASA with an existing diagnosis, who are prescribed medication and require monitoring as per NICE guidelines. The demand for this has rendered the service unable to complete any further diagnostic assessments until commissioned funding is available.