



1 August 2024

Our Ref: RFI 58517

**Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information in Relation to Occupational Therapists & Waiting List Data**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to above which you requested on 13 May 2024. 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 Adult Services & Prison Healthcare, Children's Services & Social Work and Surgery & Elective, Maternity & Paediatric Services Directorates 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) 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

Rebecca Manning
Information Governance Officer

Could you please provide the following:**Q1. Occupational Therapy – General waiting list for Occupational Therapy Treatment.**

A1. As at 10/7/2024 there are 2677 people waiting for an Occupational Therapy assessment within the Trust. This includes people waiting for Adult Community, Children and Young People, Learning disability, Mental Health for Older People and Rheumatology Occupational Therapy Services. The longest wait is 489 days.

Q2. Children – Waiting list data for ADHD, ASD and Disability.

A2a. Please note that the below are separate responses as the Trusts Children's Health and Children's Disability are individual services.

Please see Table 1 for waiting list data in relation to Children's ADHD, ASD within the Trusts Child Health Services.

Please note that in relation to Children's Health ADHD Services the Trust can only provide figures up to 03/06/2024 due to migrating to the new data system.

Table 1

Children's Service/Category	Date (As at)	No. of Children & Young People on Waiting List for Assessment	Longest Wait	Average Wait
ADHD	03/06/2024	1375	973 Days	431 Days
ASD	08/11/2023	114	120 Days	41 Days

Q2b. Please see below for waiting list data in relation to ASD, Learning Disability and Physical Disability within the Trusts Children's Disability Services.

There are 55 children with ASD on the waiting list for an initial Family Support Assessment.

There are 31 children with a learning disability on the waiting list for an initial Family Support Assessment.

There are 5 children with a physical disability on the waiting list for an initial Family Support Assessment.

There are <5 children with ASD on the waiting list for Social Work Service, having had initial assessments to determine that the children require Social Work input.

There are <5 children with a learning disability on the waiting list for Social Work Service, having had an initial assessment to determine that the children require Social Work input.

There are <5 children with a physical disability on the waiting list for Social Work Service, having had an initial assessment to determine that the children require Social Work input.

All of the above children have had a Social Worker undertake their initial assessment and are waiting to be allocated to a Social Worker in the Children's Disability Community Teams for ongoing support.

There are 52 children with ASD on the unattended waiting list to resume a Social Work Service.

There are 247 children with a learning disability on the unattended waiting list to resume a Social Work Service.

There are 11 children with a physical disability on the unattended waiting list to resume a Social Work Service.

Q3. *Mental health patients – Waiting list for Mental Health Treatment.*

A3. The current number of patients waiting to be assessed to receive Mental Health services at 30th September 2023 was 1511. The longest wait was 481 days.

Q4. *Stroke patients – Waiting list data for surgeries following a Stroke.*

A4. Stroke surgery is not carried out within the Trust. Stroke Surgery is carried out within the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust (Belfast Trust). Therefore the Trust does not hold data in regards to waiting lists for surgery following a Stroke. However should you wish to pursue your request please contact the Belfast Trust on publicliaison@belfasttrust.hscni.net

Q2. *Could you provide information regarding the primary areas that occupational therapists are addressing or dealing with the most?*

A2. The needs of service users, requiring Occupational Therapy, varies across teams, however primary areas include but are not limited to;

- Major and minor housing adaptation assessment and recommendations.
- Equipment needs assessment and provision including wheelchairs, complex seating and environmental control systems.
- Developmental assessments in children.
- Assessment and treatment of Children with Special Educational needs.