

Our ref: PM/jmck/FOI 2018 – 599

7<sup>th</sup> November 2018

By Email: (request-517534-a7e9ea8d@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Sir/Madam

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

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Your request for information regarding patients placed on ASD pathways has now been considered and the information requested is enclosed.

If you are unhappy as to how this request has been handled, you should write to the Head of Information Governance, the FOI lead for the Trust. You have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance.

If, after receiving a response, you remain unhappy, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF. 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 review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.

If you have any queries or concerns then please contact Information Governance at the following address:

Southern Health & Social Care Trust  
Ferndale  
Bannvale Site  
10 Moyallen Road  
Gilford  
BT63 5JX

Tel: 028 3883 3357

Email: [Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net)

Yours faithfully



**PAUL MORGAN**  
**DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SERVICES**

Enc: Response 2018/599

## **SOUTHERN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST**

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION RESPONSE 2018/599**

**Please separate into 6 month periods March 2017 - September 2018**

**Please can you tell me how long on average it is taking for a minor to be seen by an ASD Consultant, once placed on the ASD pathway?**

*All children under the age of 12 years are referred to Community Paediatrics and a clinical decision is made whether to refer for ASD assessment. All children once referred to the ASD Service commence their assessment within a 13 week period which is through a partial booking system. The commencement of the assessment is carried out by a clinician with a high level of knowledge and expertise in the area of ASD and they initially complete a developmental history.*

*Young people who are over 12 years of age have their ASD assessment completed within CAMHS at this time. All of these young people are seen within a 9 week period and this is done through a partial booking system.*

**Please can you tell me how long on average it is taking for an adult to be seen by an ASD Consultant, once placed on the ASD pathway?**

*Adult Services has access to a consultant Clinical Psychologist one day per month. The consultant Clinical Psychologist is the clinical lead for the Adult ASD Diagnostic pathway. A referred client can be waiting over 2 years to be seen by the clinical psychologist.*

**Please can you tell me how long it takes from preliminary observations before a diagnosis is ruled in/out?**

*All children and young people commence their assessment with 13 weeks of referral thus complying with the waiting list target. Based on clinical need and the consideration of differential diagnosis the pathway for a child/young person can take up to 24 weeks*

*All Adults once they have an initial meeting and preliminary observation will be informed of the outcome within 13 weeks*

**Are the SHSCT meeting their obligations under ASRMAIT N.I.?**

*Yes. The Trust plays an active role in meeting our obligations under ASRMAIT N.I and are represented along with a SHSCT parent representative on the ASRMAIT N.I which occurs on a quarterly basis. The Trust organises and leads the local ASD Forum which steers the development and delivery of the local implementation of the ASD Action Plan which has been extended to 2017. The Trust also supports our local ASD reference group who also participate at all levels of the ASRMAIT structure.*

*The Trust adheres to all the performance management requirements and targets. The Trust complies with the Six Steps of Autism Care and the NICE Guidance thus improving the efficiency and the cost effectiveness of recognition and referral for an autism assessment.*

**Are the SHSCT meeting their targets on both the Adult and Child ASD Pathway?**

*All children within the SHSCT commence their assessment within 13 weeks of referral thus complying with the waiting time target. All children in SHSCT commence their intervention through a post clinic appointment within two weeks of diagnosis. This is therefore well within the 13 week target. Once the post clinic appointment has taken place parents are invited to attend a series of workshops and 1:1 intervention is carried out in parallel by a specialist autism support worker.*

*Adult ASD – as the ASD service for Adults is a non -commissioned service we are not able to meet targets at present*

**How many adults are being diagnosed.... and how many are have yet to be assessed?**

<b>Adults</b>	<b>Number Diagnosed</b>	<b>Number not Diagnosed</b>
<b>March 2017 – End of August 2018</b>	14	16
<b>Current Waiting List – Yet to Be assessed as of 10/09/2018</b>	132	

**How many minors are being diagnosed.... and how many are have yet to be assessed?**

<b>Year within 6 monthly intervals</b>	<b>Number Diagnosed</b>	<b>Number not Diagnosed</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017</b>	91	37
<b>1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 -29<sup>th</sup></b>	133	44

<i>February 2018</i>		
<i>1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2018</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>41</i>
<b><i>Current Waiting List – Yet to Be assessed as of 10/09/2018</i></b>	<b><i>129</i></b>	

**How many, both children and adults in total have been diagnosed since the Pathway was implemented?**

*See tables above for numbers of Children and Adults Diagnosed*

**How many, both children and adults in total have been diagnosed as not having an ASD since the Pathway was implemented?**

*See tables above for numbers of Children and Adults Not Diagnosed*

**How many, both children and adults in total have been on the waiting list (including those already assessed) since the ASD Pathway was implemented?**

*See tables above for numbers of Children and Adults on Waiting List*