

FOI_1184_2023-24 – FOI Request Concerning – Neurodevelopmental Services for CYP

Please note, that this FOI provides information from the two cities within Solent NHS Trust CAMHS/ND services, as this will allow for representative data in relation to the two cities and due to both cities, historically, having different referral / assessment criteria for data recording. We have not averaged the reported times/waits to ensure a clear and accurate report can be made against both cities.

In addition, the responses are for CAMHS services only and excludes data from Community Paediatric Medical Services (CPMS) who assess the 5 year and underage group. This is due to the inability to retrieve data from the relevant systems due to recording infrastructure and the time it would take exceeds the allocated time for FOI completion.

1. The number of referrals into your neurodevelopmental services for children and young people for 2017, 2021 and 2022.

We are unable to provide figures for 2017 as the services do not hold comprehensive record keeping from that specific time across both localities.

Solent East (Portsmouth):

2021 – 255

2022 – 253

Data extraction based on referral allocation to the ND caseload on the clinical health record of the child/young person. This data includes both Autism and ADHD due to the service not distinguishing between the diagnosis at point of referral i.e., all referrals are classified as ND.

Solent West (Southampton):

2021 – 662

2022 – 1363

The service is aware that the 2022 figure is almost double the 2021 figure, this is due to the service being closed to new referrals during January to September 2021 (this was for Autism referrals only) therefore would explain for the increased level of received referrals during 2022.

Due to the different structure of the Solent West ND services, the data was extracted by referrals onto the Autism service and referrals onto the ADHD waiting list within Core CAMHS

2. The average wait in weeks for a first assessment/appointment within your neurodevelopmental services for children and young people for 2017, 2021 and 2022.

Please be aware that whilst the service is aware that there are long waits for assessment, this does not mean that the family, child or young person goes unsupported by the services. They will have access to the Duty/Triage system, risk assessed and be offered suitable intervention whilst waiting, whether this be by CAMHS or signposted to a different organisation.

We are unable to provide figures for 2017 as the services do not hold comprehensive record keeping from that specific time across both localities.

Solent East (Portsmouth):

2021:

83.5 weeks (average time in weeks from referral to first contact recorded on the clinical health record system)

2022:

74.5 weeks (average time in weeks from referral to first contact recorded on the clinical health record system)

(due to service changes in 2022, this figure relates only up until 30/06/2022 when the previous pathway was redesigned to current pathway)

Solent West (Southampton):

2021:

ADHD average is 67.89 weeks from date of referral to first assessments completed in 2021

For Southampton Autism assessments there is no data available due to the service being closed to new referrals during this time to allow for service redesign/relaunch.

Assessments completed in this year were recorded against older referrals where we do not have the date of referral captured for calculation. All referrals that were received in 2021 were not assessed until 2022.

2022:

Autism assessment is 28 weeks (average from referral dates to ADI/ADOS completion dates completed in 2022 entered on spreadsheet)

CAMHS ADHD assessment is 50.39 weeks (average form referral date to completion of assessment)

3. The number of children and young people waiting for a neurodevelopmental assessment as of the date of this request or the nearest available date please.

Solent East (Portsmouth):

619 – census date 26/05/2023 (please note that due to service redesign, this figure includes all children and young people aged 0 -18 years)

Solent West (Southampton):

942 – census date 26/05/2023

4. The number of children and young people referred to your neurodevelopmental services who were discharged without an assessment or treatment for 2017, 2021 and 2022 please.

Due to how appointments are outcomes on our clinical health records, it is not possible to release data accurate/specific data in relation to this point i.e., we don't categories either of the points identified as specific outcomes to referrals. We would always signpost unaccepted referrals to other agencies across the city for possible intervention i.e., Early Help, Counselling service, GP, adult mental health services

5. The longest wait in weeks of any CYP awaiting a first appointment with your neurodevelopmental services as of the date of this request or nearest available date.

Across both cities, in line with the data capturing metrics attached to this FOI, 59 weeks is the current, longest waiter.