

**Information Governance**

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3 February 2021

**Our reference: FOI DA3687**

I am responding to your request for information received 28 January 2021. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

When an organisation receives a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, it is allowed under the Act to apply a blanket exemption to this where it has concluded that providing a response would take in excess of eighteen hours. When the cost of compliance and extracting information would exceed eighteen hours, a cost limit of £450 can be applied. This is explained in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to eighteen hours work.

Having reviewed your request, the Trust has noted that it would not be able to all the information requested within the eighteen hours specified in the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In order to assist you with your request, I have advised below the timing each question would take in order to assist you to refine your request. If you wish to refine your request to comply with the 18 hour time limit, please do get in touch

I am now enclosing a response which is attached to the end of this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on the contact details above if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Keshia Harvey  
Information Governance Manager

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113  
Web: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

**Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention**

Chair: Mark Lam

*We care*

Interim Chief Executive: Paul Calaminus

*We respect*

*We are inclusive*

**Request:**

**To whom it may concern,**

**Subject: Children and Adult Mental Health Services waiting times across the UK Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000,**

- Question 1. Please tell me: Within your mental health trust (East London NHS Foundation Trust) what was the average CAMHS waiting time to be seen in the following situation.**
- a. After referral to CAMHS, to the point of receiving first treatment**
    - a.i. In 2019, monthly breakdowns please**
    - a.ii. In 2020, monthly average breakdowns please**

**Answer:** This question could be responded to within the 18 hour time frame. Please advise if you require a response to this question.

- Question 2. Within your mental health trust (East London NHS Foundation Trust) what was the average CAMHS waiting time to be seen in the CAMHS Eating Disorder Clinic**
- a) After referral to the CAMHS Eating Disorder clinic, to the point of receiving first treatment**
    - a.i. In 2019, monthly breakdowns please**
    - a.ii. In 2020, monthly average breakdowns please**

**Answer:** This question could be responded to within the 18 hour time frame. Please advise if you require a response to this question.

- Question 3. Within your mental health trust (East London NHS Foundation Trust) how long (in number of patients waiting to be treated, following a referral to CAMHS) was the CAMHS waiting list for all treatments?**
- a) in 2019, monthly breakdown please**
  - b) in 2020, monthly breakdown please**

- Question 4. Within your mental health trust (East London NHS Foundation Trust) how long (in number of patients waiting to be treated, following a referral to CAMHS) was the CAMHS Eating Disorder Clinic waiting list?**
- a) in 2019, monthly breakdown please**
  - b) in 2020, monthly breakdown please**

- Question 5. Within your mental health trust (East London NHS Foundation Trust) what were the longest that anyone has waited for the following CAMHS treatments, following a referral to CAMHS?**

**Talking therapies**

- a.i. in 2019**
- a.ii. in 2020**

**Eating disorder recovery**

- b.i. in 2019**
- b.ii. in 2020**

**All other treatment areas**

- c.i. in 2019**
- c.ii. in 2020**

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Answer: The Trust has reviewed your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the FOI Act states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—*

*(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and  
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him.*

For questions 3-5, East London NHS Foundation Trust CAMHS does not have treatment waiting lists. Information held regarding waiting lists would relate to referral to assessment. Once an assessment is completed, an appointment for appropriate treatment is offered. The information is not held in the format requested and therefore not disclosable.

**Question 6. Within your mental health trust (East London NHS Foundation Trust) how many CAMHS patients were prescribed medication for anxiety  
In 2019  
In 2020**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. In order to collate this information, staff would have to review each patient record to ascertain their diagnosis and whether they have been prescribed medication.

Therefore, the Trust is unable to comply with this particular part of your request as the cost of compliance and extracting your exact requirements would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 which is specified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to 18 hours work.