



East London
NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance

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Website: <https://www.elft.nhs.uk>

25 November 2021

Our reference: FOI DA3974

I am responding to your request for information received 22 October 2021. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your request. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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

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

Chief Executive: Paul Calaminus

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Request

Please can you supply me with the following:

Question 1. How many referrals to CAMHS services has there been since 2018/19? Please can this be broken down by year and broken down into those being referred to mental health services, and those referred for autism or learning difficulties?

Answer: Please see table below:

Year	No. of referrals
2018/19	10980
2019/20	12691
2020/21	13593
01/04/2021-31/10/2021:	10924

Please note the information held on the clinical system is that all referrals have referral reason recorded as "For assessment". Therefore we are not able to report referrals for autism or learning difficulties without reviewing each referral received.

Question 2. What percentage of referrals to CAMHS services have been rejected or deemed inappropriate for each financial year since 2018/19?

Answer: Please see table below:

Year	Percentage of inappropriate referrals
2018-19	8%
2019-20	7%
2020-21	8%
2021-22 (Apr – Oct)	10%

This data include referrals that were deemed inappropriate for ELFT CAMHS and were:

- A) Signpost to Tier 2/Community CAMHS.
- B) Signpost to Health Care Provider

Question 3. What is your maximum waiting time in days for CAMHS from a) referral to first appointment and b) referral to start of treatment since 2018/19 and for each year after that?

Answer: Please see table below:

Year	Referral to first appointment (in days)	Referral to start of treatment
2018-19	294	416
2019-20	271	386
2020-21	294	494
2021-22 (Apr – Oct)	290	462

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Question 4. What is your median waiting time in days for CAMHS from
a) referral to first appointment and
b) referral to start of treatment since 2018/19 and for each year
after that? If you collect the above information in weeks please
could you state whether your measure of a week is equivalent to
seven days?

If you collect the information in months please could you state
the number of days in each month?

Please can this be broken down by the length of waiting time. i.e.
for each year can you please give the figure of how many were
waiting 0 – 2 weeks, 2 – 4 weeks, 4 – 6 weeks, 6 – 8 weeks, 8 – 10
weeks, and 10 weeks or more

Answer: Please see table below:

Year	Referral to first appointment (in days)	Referral to start of treatment (in days)
2018-19	22	38
2019-20	21	35
2020-21	16	24
2021-22 (Apr – Oct)	18	20

Please note, the information requested is not held on the clinical system in the format requested. The median waiting time cannot be broken down in the format requested.

Question 5. Do you wish to make any further comments on the issue of
rejected referrals to children’s mental health services and overall
waiting times for children accessing mental health services?

Answer: Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 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.

The Freedom of Information Act relates to information held by a public body. If there are any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.