



East London

**NHS Foundation Trust
Information Governance**

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2nd May 2025

Our reference: FOI DA5873

I am responding to your request for information received 11 February 2025 and clarified on 13 February. 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.

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 provide all the information requested within the eighteen hours specified in the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, in this instance and to assist you, we have provided a partial response to your request as per below.

In order to assist you with your request, I have advised below the timing each question would take to help you to refine your request. If you wish to refine your request to comply with the eighteen 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,

FOI Team



We promise to work together creatively to: learn
'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality
of life and continuously improve our services.
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Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

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



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Request: For the 12 months between January 2024 to December 2024:

Clarification: I'm seeking information related to service users who would be admitted into your CAMHS programme.

Question 1: The number of children and young people (adolescents) who were referred to your mental health services?

Answer: Please see table below:

The number of children and young people (adolescents) who were referred to mental health services between January 2024 and December 2024	
Team	Referrals received
Crisis	2753
Eating Disorders	450 (East London Community Eating Disorder Service (EL CEDS) - 222)
Neurodevelopmental and Autism Assessment Pathway	1490
All other CAMHS Teams	15200
Total	19893

Question 2: The number of children and young people (adolescents) who were referred to your mental health services and are still waiting for first contact?

Answer: 1173.

Question 3: The number of children and young people (adolescents) who were referred to your mental health services and are still waiting for the second contact [assessment appointment]?

Answer: 903.

Question 4: How many of those children and young people (adolescents) had their referral closed before accessing support?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 4 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:
Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, it would be necessary to review and count each referral manually as we are unable to verify whether referrals were closed before accessing support. This is estimated to take over 18 hours to collate.

Question 5: How many urgent contacts to CAMHS did you receive due to an emergency situation while a child or adolescent is waiting for first contact from your mental health services?

Answer: 90 crisis referrals (Emergency and Urgent) were received whilst waiting for a first appointment with another CAMHS team.



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Question 6: Please can you provide the longest wait time from referral to first appointment?

Answer: For the twelve months between January 2024 to December 2024, the longest wait time from referral to first appointment was 56 weeks. When reviewed regarding the type of young people that have long waits, this case was from our Emotional and Behavioural team and has been rated green against a system which measures complexity and risk. Green identifies low risk and low complexity. Due to demand for the service, we prioritise higher risk and complexity to be seen quicker.

Question 7: Please can you provide a breakdown of the numbers of those children and young people (adolescents) referred to your mental health services who identify as male, female, transgender or undisclosed gender?

Answer: Please see table below:

Gender	Number of patients
Female (including trans woman)	10837
Male (including trans man)	8996
Gender fluid	7
Non-binary	31
Self-described	11
Undisclosed	11

Question 8: Please can you provide a breakdown of the numbers of those children and young people (adolescents) referred to your mental health services for 'reaching crisis'?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 16 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 40 for the FOI Act states:

(2) This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK GDPR.

In order to provide the information requested, it would be necessary to access patient records as the information is not held in a searchable format. There is no legal basis to access patient records for the purposes of responding to a Freedom of Information request. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.



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For the 12 months between January 2023 to December 2023:

Clarification: I'm seeking information related to service users who would be admitted into your CAMHS programme.

Question 9: The number of children and young people (adolescents) who were referred to your mental health services?

Answer: Please see table below:

The number of children and young people (adolescents) who were referred to mental health services between January 2023 and December 2023		
Team	Referrals received	Referrals accepted
Crisis	2932	2831
Eating Disorders	471 (EL CEDS – 196)	389 (EL CEDS – 113)
Neurodevelopmental and Autism Assessment Pathway	1394	1370
All other CAMHS Teams	14728	11473
Total	19525	16063

Question 10: The number of children and young people (adolescents) who were referred to your mental health services and are still waiting for first contact?

Answer: Please see table below:

The number of children and young people (adolescents) who were referred to mental health services and are still waiting for first contact, between January 2023 and December 2023	
Team	Number of patients
Crisis	0
Eating Disorders	0
Neurodevelopmental and Autism Assessment Pathway	151
All other CAMHS Teams	16
Total	167

Question 11: The number of children and young people (adolescents) who were referred to your mental health services and are still waiting for the second contact [assessment appointment]?

Answer: 219.



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Question 12: How many of those children and young people (adolescents) had their referral closed before accessing support?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 12 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:
Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, it would be necessary to review and count each referral manually as we are unable to verify whether referrals were closed before accessing support. This is estimated to take over 18 hours to collate.

Question 13: How many urgent contacts to CAMHS did you receive due to an emergency situation while a child or adolescent is waiting for first contact from your mental health services?

Answer: 69 crisis referrals (Emergency and Urgent) were received whilst waiting for a first appointment with another CAMHS Team.

Question 14: Please can you provide the longest wait time from referral to first appointment?

Answer: For the twelve months between January 2023 to December 2023, the longest wait time from referral to first appointment was 94 weeks. When reviewed regarding the type of young people that have long waits, this case was from our Emotional and Behavioural team and has been rated green against a system which measures complexity and risk. Green identifies low risk and low complexity. Due to demand for the service, we prioritise higher risk and complexity to be seen quicker.

Question 15: Please can you provide a breakdown of the numbers of those children and young people (adolescents) referred to your mental health services who identify as male, female, transgender or undisclosed gender?

Answer: Please see table below:

Gender	Number of patients
Female (including trans woman)	11007
Male (including trans man)	8443
Gender fluid	10
Non-binary	32
Self-described	17
Undisclosed	16



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Question 16: Please can you provide a breakdown of the numbers of those children and young people (adolescents) referred to your mental health services for 'reaching crisis'?

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 16 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 40 for the FOI Act states:

(2) This exemption covers the personal data of third parties (anyone other than the requester) where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK GDPR.

In order to provide the information requested, it would be necessary to access patient records as the information is not held in a searchable format. There is no legal basis to access patient records for the purposes of responding to a Freedom of Information request. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.



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