



East London

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance

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19th May 2026

Our reference: FOI DA6524

We are responding to your request for information received 6th March 2026. We are sorry for the delay in responding to your request. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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

Yours sincerely,

FOI Team

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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'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality
of life and continuously improve our services.
We care . We respect . We are inclusive

Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request:

Question 1: Please provide, where this information is held in a reportable or centrally recorded format, the number of CAMHS patients under 18 who were prescribed psychotropic medication prior to a formal psychiatric diagnosis being recorded, in each of the last five financial years.

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 1 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.

Question 2: Please provide the Trust's written policy or clinical governance guidance governing circumstances in which CAMHS clinicians may exclude a parent holding parental responsibility from communication about their child's assessment, treatment or care;

Answer: Please see appendix 1

Question 3: Please provide, where this information is held in a reportable or centrally recorded format, the number of CAMHS patients under 18 who were prescribed psychotropic medication following their first CAMHS appointment, in each of the last five financial years.

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 3 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.

Question 4: Please provide any Trust policy, guidance, or training material relating to how CAMHS clinicians should proceed where parents holding parental responsibility disagree about treatment decisions;

Answer: Please see appendix 2

Question 5: Please provide the average and median number of CAMHS clinical appointments attended by patients before psychotropic medication is first prescribed, for each of the last five financial years;

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 5 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.



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Question 6: Please provide any Trust policy, guidance, or training materials used within CAMHS which address how clinicians should respond where a parent disagrees with or refuses consent to proposed mental health treatment for a child.

Answer Please see appendix 2

Question 7: Please confirm whether the Trust records within its clinical or administrative systems whether all individuals holding parental responsibility were or are informed or consulted prior to treatment decisions being made for CAMHS patients. If such information is recorded, please confirm the fields or mechanisms used to record this information

Answer The Trust's clinical system (e.g. RiO) includes functionality to record key relationships, including identification of the main carer and individuals with parental responsibility where this information is provided.

However the Trust does not currently have a single, standardised field or mandatory mechanism that records. Evidence of parental involvement and consent is typically captured within clinical documentation, for example:

- Assessment documentation
- Care plans
- Progress notes



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