



East London
NHS Foundation Trust
Information Governance
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28th July 2026

Our reference: FOI DA6532

We are responding to your request for information received 14th 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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Chair: Eileen Taylor

Request: **Definitions**

- “CYP” means clients aged 17 and younger
- “ADHD diagnostic assessment requests” means referrals received requesting an ADHD diagnostic assessment, regardless of whether the referral was later accepted, redirected, or rejected (where this is the easiest way for your Trust to extract data)
- If your CYP ADHD diagnostic assessments are delivered via a combined neurodevelopmental service (e.g. ADHD/Autism), please answer using the closest equivalent service data

Question 1: **Recent referral numbers (demand)**

How many ADHD diagnostic assessment requests were received by your Trust’s specialist CYP ADHD service in:

- a) Calendar year 2025 (or previous financial year if calendar year data not available)**
- b) Oct–Dec 2025 (last 3 months of 2025)**

If it is not possible to separate ADHD diagnostic assessment requests from Autism diagnostic assessment requests, please provide the total combined referrals (ADHD and Autism) for:

- a) Calendar year 2025 (or previous financial year if calendar year data not available)**
- b) Oct–Dec 2025 (last 3 months of 2025)**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 1 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

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 them.

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested, as records of staff training are not maintained in a way that allows the Trust to identify or extract the number of assessors who have completed ADHD-specific diagnostic training, as defined in the request (i.e. formal course attendance specific to ADHD diagnosis).

Question 2: **Please provide the estimated number of children and young people currently waiting for an ADHD diagnostic assessment as of 31 December 2025 (or nearest date available), split into:**

- a) Children and young people waiting to be assessed within the Trust’s own service**
- b) Children and young people referred for assessment via Right to Choose providers, if recorded/held by the Trust**
(If your Trust does not hold Right to Choose waiting figures, please confirm this)

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 2 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

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



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- (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 them.

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.

Section 16(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 16 (1) It shall be the duty of a public authority to provide advice and assistance, so far as it would be reasonable to expect the authority to do so, to persons who propose to make, or have made, requests for information to it.

Under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act, the Trust has a duty to provide a reasonable level of advice and assistance. As such, the Trust can disclose the following information to assist you with your request.

The Trust is not able to provide a separate figure for children and young people waiting specifically for an ADHD diagnostic assessment as at 31 December 2025 (or nearest date available).

Following triage, screening, and acceptance, referrals are clinically allocated to waiting lists for Autism (ASD), ADHD, and medication pathways. However, during the reporting period, the Trust was in the process of transitioning from a single Neurodevelopmental (NDT) pathway to separate ASD, ADHD, and medication waiting lists. As a result, data has not been fully and consistently migrated into these individual pathway waiting lists.

Due to this transitional position, a reliable and complete split of waiting list numbers for ADHD diagnostic assessment is not available for the requested date.

The Trust can therefore provide the combined total number of children and young people waiting within the Neurodevelopmental (NDT) pathway, which includes ASD, ADHD, ADHD medication, and other neurodevelopmental presentations.

In relation to Right to Choose (RTC), information held in ICB level.

Waiting list as of end of April 2026: 797

Question 3: Workforce capacity (establishment, staffing, sickness)

- a) **How many funded FTE posts are specifically allocated to CYP ADHD diagnostic assessment work within your Trust?**
- b) **How many of these funded FTE posts are currently filled (please provide headcount and FTE if available)?**
- c) **How many staff involved in ADHD diagnostic work are currently on long-term sick leave? (If fewer than 5, please state "<5".)**
- d) **Please provide the professional background of staff conducting ADHD diagnostic assessments, including headcount and FTE where available:**
 - a. **Psychiatrists**
 - b. **Clinical Psychologists**
 - c. **Counselling Psychologists**
 - d. **Paediatricians**
 - e. **Mental Health Nurses**



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- f. Pharmacists
g. Other (please specify)

e) **For staff conducting CYP ADHD assessments, please indicate how many years' experience they have in ADHD diagnostic assessment work, grouped into bands such as: 0–1 / 2–3 / 4–5 / 6–10 / 10+ years. (If exact years of experience are not held centrally, please provide the closest available estimate known to service management)**

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 3 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

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(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested, as there is a specific number of WTEs in the team and their workload varies depending on the needs of the service. The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

Question 4: Training & competence
How many assessors have completed additional ADHD-specific diagnostic training (formal course attendance recorded by the Trust/service)?

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

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

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(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 them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested, as records of staff training are not maintained in a way that allows the Trust to identify or extract the number of assessors who have completed ADHD-specific diagnostic training as defined in the request (i.e. formal course attendance specific to ADHD diagnosis). The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

Question 5: What ADHD-specific clinical supervision arrangements are in place for ADHD assessors (frequency, supervisor role, format)? A brief description is sufficient.

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

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

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East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information in the format requested, as clinical supervision is provided to staff as part of overall



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professional and clinical supervision arrangements. ADHD-specific clinical supervision is not recorded separately from these broader supervision processes, and therefore it is not possible to identify or extract supervision arrangements specific to ADHD assessment (including frequency, supervisor role, or format). The Trust is therefore unable to provide a response.

Question 6: Productivity expectations (capacity expectations)

How many ADHD diagnostic assessments are assessors (if full-time) expected or typically able to complete on average per month? (If expectations differ by professional group, please provide ranges or separate figures where available)

Answer The Trust has reviewed question 6 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

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East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information in the format requested and is therefore unable to provide a response.



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