

FOI REF: 22/047

22nd February 2022

Tel: 0300 131 4500

Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

I would like to make a Freedom of information request regarding the child development services provided by East Sussex Health care Trust.

1. **How many children are under the service, new patients and follow ups?**

	New	FU	Total
0-4 years	659	1409	2068
5+ years	1332	1524	2856
Total	1991	2933	4924

2. **How many New patients are waiting over 4 years to be seen?**

0.

3. **How many New patients are waiting 3-4 years to be seen?**

2.

4. **How many New patients are waiting 2-3 years to be seen?**

236.

5. **How many New patients are waiting 1-2 years to be seen?**

492.

Cont.../

6. If patients have been seen by a nurse specialist and are now waiting to be assessed by a multi-disciplinary team how long would a patient expect to wait to be seen from that time?

This data is not collected.

7. How many patients are waiting over 4 years since first initial nurse assessment to be assessed by the MDT?

This data is not collected.

8. How many patients are waiting over 3-4 years since first initial nurse assessment to be assessed by the MDT?

This data is not collected.

9. How many patients are waiting over 2-3 years since first initial nurse assessment to be assessed by the MDT?

This data is not collected.

10. How many patients are waiting over 1-2 years since first initial nurse assessment to be assessed by the MDT?

This data is not collected.

11. How long would a child waiting to be assessed for Autism Spectrum Disorder expect to be seen? Not including the first nurse assessment.

Age Cat	Current avg wait time
0-4 years	33 weeks
5+ years	85 weeks

The figures quoted above are 'current' wait times, we have a significant % of children still on waiting lists and therefore this wait time is likely to increase.

12. What is the service doing to reduce the waiting times?

- Options plan submitted to CCG for consideration.
- Actively recruiting to and expanding the multi-disciplinary team, to include greater Clinical psychology, Speech and language therapists, Occupational therapists and Neurodisability nurses within a landscape where there is a national shortage of Community paediatricians.
- As an integrated Trust the Child Development OPD clinic space (Scott Unit) was lost to other acute services (ITU 2) due to Covid-19. By the end of 2022 we are to have two fully functioning child development OPD centres.

Cont.../

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net