



FOI REF: 22/202

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

20th April 2022

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'd like to request information from each of your CCGs regarding the length of time it takes children referred with suspected autism to get a first diagnostic appointment.

Please note that East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not provide a Mental Health Service. This service is provided by Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust who are the Mental Health Trust for this area, their Freedom of Information email address is:-

foi@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

QUESTION 1

Please see above.

- A. **How many children with suspected autism received a first diagnostic appointment in the year up to 31 March 2022?**
- B. **How many of these children waited more than 13 weeks for that first appointment?**
- C. **What was the average wait time?**
- D. **What were the longest three wait times for these children?**

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QUESTION 2

[Please see question 1.](#)

- A. How many children with suspected autism received a first diagnostic appointment in the year up to 31 March 2021?
- B. How many of these children waited more than 13 weeks for that first appointment?
- C. What was the average wait time?

QUESTION 3

[Please see above.](#)

- A. How many children with suspected autism received a first diagnostic appointment in the year up to 31 March 2021?
- B. How many of these children waited more than 13 weeks for that first appointment?
- C. What was the average wait time?

QUESTION 4

[Please see above.](#)

- A. How many children with suspected autism received a first diagnostic appointment in the year up to 31 March 2020?
- B. How many of these children waited more than 13 weeks for that first appointment?
- C. What was the average wait time?

QUESTION 5

[Please see above.](#)

- A. How many children with suspected autism received a first diagnostic appointment in the year up to 31 March 2029?
- B. How many of these children waited more than 13 weeks for that first appointment?
- C. What was the average wait time?

QUESTION 6

Please see question 1.

- A. **How many children with suspected autism are currently waiting for their first diagnostic appointment?**
- B. **What is the average wait time for these children?**
- C. **How many of these children have been waiting for more than 13 weeks?**
- D. **What are the longest three wait times for these children?**

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