

FOI REF: 24/232

12th April 2024

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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:

- 1. The total number of patients currently on the waiting list to receive speech and language therapy services.**

[Please see the attached document.](#)

- 2. A breakdown of the waiting list by age groups (0-5 years, 6-10 years, 11-15 years, 16-18 years, 18+ years) for the latest calendar year 2023.**

[Please see the attached document.](#)

- 3. A breakdown of the number of patients by age group waiting from referral to first appointment:**

- **0-1 weeks (0-7 days)**
- **1-2 weeks (8-14 days)**
- **2-4 weeks (15-28 days)**
- **4-12 weeks (29-84 days)**
- **12-18 weeks (85-126 days)**
- **18-52 weeks (127-364 days)**
- **Over 52 weeks (over 365days)**

[Please see the attached document.](#)

- 4. Historical data on the waiting list – the total number of patients waiting for speech and language services, a breakdown by age group and weeks waiting for 2019, 2020 and 2021 or the latest year for when records began.**

[Please see the attached document.](#)

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

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Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net

FOI 24/232 Speech and Language Therapy

1 The total number of patients currently on the waiting list to receive speech and language therapy services.

507 (as at 18/03/2024)

2 A breakdown of the waiting list by age groups (0-5 years, 6-10 years, 11-15 years, 16-18 years, 18+ years) for the latest calendar year 2023.

Age (as at 31/12/2023)	Number Waiting (as at 31/12/2023)
0-5	0
6-10	0
11-15	0
16-17	1
18+	467

3 A breakdown of the number of patients by age group waiting from referral to first appointment:

Weeks Wait (Ref to 1st Appt)	Number Waited (Referrals first seen in 2023)
0-1 Week	1036
1-2 Weeks	304
2-4 Weeks	382
4-12 Weeks	631
12-18 Weeks	175
18-52 Weeks	256
Over 52 Weeks	40

4 Historical data on the waiting list – the total number of patients waiting for speech and language services, a breakdown by age group and weeks waiting for 2019, 2020 and 2021 or the latest year for when records began.

Weeks Wait (<i>Ref to 1st Appt</i>)	Number Waited (<i>Referrals first seen in 2021</i>)	
	Aged 16-17	Aged 18+
0-1 Week	0	139
1-2 Weeks	1	256
2-4 Weeks	0	411
4-12 Weeks	0	479
12-18 Weeks	0	73
18-52 Weeks	1	84
Over 52 Weeks	0	14

***No patients where aged under 16 at the point of their 1st appointment.**

Weeks Wait (<i>Ref to 1st Appt</i>)	Number Waited (<i>Referrals first seen in 2020</i>)	
	Aged 16-17	Aged 18+
0-1 Week	0	107
1-2 Weeks	0	102
2-4 Weeks	0	214
4-12 Weeks	1	606
12-18 Weeks	0	186
18-52 Weeks	0	75
Over 52 Weeks	0	28

***No patients where aged under 16 at the point of their 1st appointment.**

Weeks Wait (Ref to 1st Appt)	Number Waited (Referrals first seen in 2019)	
	Aged 16-17	Aged 18+
0-1 Week	0	32
1-2 Weeks	0	67
2-4 Weeks	0	243
4-12 Weeks	0	830
12-18 Weeks	1	253
18-52 Weeks	0	37
Over 52 Weeks	0	24

***No patients were aged under 16 at the point of their 1st appointment.**