

FOI Ref: 26/178

6th March 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital

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Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2UD

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

Further to your recent request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, I now set out our answers to your specific questions, and any clarifications sought and provided, as follows:

- 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.**

Please note that East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not provide the CAMHS 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:-

spft.foi@nhs.net

- 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;**

Not applicable, please refer to question 1 above.

- 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.**

Not applicable, please refer to question 1 above.

- 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;**

Not applicable, please refer to question 1 above.

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;**

Not applicable, please refer to question 1.

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.**

Not applicable, please refer to question 1.

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.**

Not applicable, please refer to question 1.

I trust this information is helpful in its detail or explanation however, if you are dissatisfied with the response, then you have the right to request an internal review. If you wish to seek an internal review, please write to the Freedom of Information Team at esh-tr.foi@nhs.net quoting the above FOI reference number, within 40 working days. Please note the Trust is not obliged to accept a request for an internal review after this time period.

Yours faithfully

Freedom of Information (FOI) Team
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
0300 131 4716
Core Hours of Business: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm