

29 April 2026

Mental Health Services and Waiting Times

Where figures are broken down by financial year, please provide data for the last three completed financial years (2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25) and year-to-date for 2025/26 where available. Where possible, please provide data broken down by adult mental health services and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) separately.

1. Referrals and Access

- 1. The total number of referrals received by the Trust's mental health services in each of the periods above, broken down by adult services and CAMHS.**
- 2. The number of referrals accepted and the number rejected or signposted elsewhere in each period, with the most common reasons for rejection.**
- 3. The number of patients currently on an active caseload within adult mental health services and CAMHS.**

2. Waiting Times

- 4. The average (mean and median) waiting time, in weeks, from referral to first assessment appointment for:
(a) adult mental health services,
(b) CAMHS,
(c) psychological therapies,
(d) eating disorder services,
(e) ADHD assessment services,
and (f) autism assessment services.**
- 5. The longest waiting time, in weeks, currently recorded from referral to first assessment for each of the services listed in question 4.**
- 6. The average and longest waiting time, in weeks, from first assessment to commencement of treatment for each of the services listed in question 4.**
- 7. The number of patients currently waiting longer than 9 weeks, 13 weeks, 26 weeks, and 52 weeks for (a) first assessment and (b) treatment, broken down by service.**

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8. The number of patients whose referral was closed or discharged without treatment while on a waiting list, in each of the periods above.

3. Crisis, Inpatient and Out-of-Area Care

9. The number of mental health crisis presentations to Emergency Departments within the Trust in each period.

10. The number of adult and CAMHS inpatient mental health beds commissioned by the Trust, and the average bed occupancy rate in each period.

11. The number of patients placed in out-of-area inpatient placements (including placements outside Northern Ireland) in each period, the total cost of these placements, and the average length of stay.

12. The number of under-18s admitted to adult mental health wards in each period.

4. Workforce

13. The current number of funded whole-time equivalent (WTE) posts within mental health services, broken down by staff group (consultant psychiatrist, other medical staff, mental health nursing, psychology, allied health professionals, social work, support staff).

14. The number of vacant WTE posts within mental health services at the end of each period, broken down by the same staff groups.

15. The total spend on agency and locum staff within mental health services in each period.

5. Finance and Serious Incidents

16. The total budget allocated to mental health services in each period, expressed as both an absolute figure and as a percentage of the Trust's total budget.

17. The number of Serious Adverse Incidents (SAIs) recorded within mental health services in each period.

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18. The number of recorded deaths by suicide of patients who were under the care of, or had been discharged within the preceding 12 months from, the Trust's mental health services in each period.

Format of Response

I would prefer to receive this information electronically, in an open and machine-readable format (such as .csv or .xlsx) where numerical data is provided. If any part of this request is unclear, I would appreciate the opportunity to clarify it rather than receiving an outright refusal.

If you consider that any part of this request would exceed the appropriate cost limit under Section 12 of the Act, please advise me which elements can be answered within the limit so that I may refine the request, as required by your Section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance.

This request is too vast, it crosses over six different directorates. To undertake this exercise collectively would involve a significant number of hours. This would exceed the costs limit specified in the FOI act.

We estimate that compliance with the request for information would exceed the appropriate costs limit. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000, the limit has been specified as £450 and represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.