

21/01/2026

NN-ICB/25-1451

Dear Requestor

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your request for information, received on 29 December 2025, regarding the waiting times for autism assessments for children. We have processed your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Under the FOIA, public authorities like ours are required to respond to requests for information within 20 working days. In response to your request, I can confirm that we partially hold the information requested.

**Please find below our response to your request:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I am requesting data regarding the waiting times for autism assessments for children. Please provide the following information for each year from 2015 – 2025 (I understand the 2025 data might not be ready yet!)

1. The number of referrals received for autism assessments for children (breaking down into age groups of 0-5 years, 5-10 years, and 10 years+).

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB does not hold this information. The ICB only holds the number of referrals received for all conditions (including Autism) from 2023 onwards for Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals. The ICB does not hold this data by condition or age therefore we are unable to provide the requested breakdown; you may wish to request this directly from the provider.

How to submit a Freedom of Information request to each provider can be found on their website links below:

- Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust - <https://www.dbth.nhs.uk/contact/freedom-of-information/>
- Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust - <https://www.nuh.nhs.uk/freedom-of-information>
- Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust - [Freedom of Information | Sherwood Forest Hospitals](#).

2. The average waiting time from referral to assessment. Breaking down each stage of process from referral, initial consultation, diagnostic assessment and final report.

The ICB does not hold data on the average waiting times. This is due to the length of time that some children and young people will have been under care before an assessment for autism is identified. The ICB does hold the median waiting time from referral to assessment for Nottingham University Hospital for the years 2024 and 2025.

3. The number of referrals that met NHS waiting time target (13 weeks).

The ICB does not hold this information. You may wish to request this directly from the providers.

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- Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust - [Freedom of Information | Sherwood Forest Hospitals](#).

**Statistical question regarding the present day:**

4. What is the longest recorded waiting time for an assessment in the past year?

72 weeks.

5. The number of children currently on the waiting list.

The ICB does not hold this information. You may wish to request this directly from the providers.

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- Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust - [Freedom of Information | Sherwood Forest Hospitals](#).

6. How much funding has been allocated to children's autism assessments in each of the past 10 years?

The Community Paediatric Services are contracted on a block contract basis which includes autism assessments, therefore the ICB does not hold this information.

7. What is the current staffing level for autism assessment teams?

The ICB does not hold this information. You may wish to request this directly from the providers.

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- Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust - <https://www.nuh.nhs.uk/freedom-of-information>
- Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust - [Freedom of Information | Sherwood Forest Hospitals](#).

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) has an internal review procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting Lucy Branson, Director of Corporate Affairs via [lucy.branson@nhs.net](mailto:lucy.branson@nhs.net) or by writing to FOI Team at NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB, Sir John Robinson House, Sir John Robinson Way, Arnold, Daybrook, Nottingham NG5 6DA.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who will consider whether the organisation has complied with its obligations under the Act and can require the organisation to remedy any problems. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113 or report a concern via <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer on behalf of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board [nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net](mailto:nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net)

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the license conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead via [nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net](mailto:nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net). All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.