

26/02/2026

NN-ICB/26-1472

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 19 January 2026, regarding neurodivergent assessment services data (ADHD/Autism). 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. However, please note that some of the information you requested has been withheld.

Please find below our response to your request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information regarding neurodivergent (ADHD and autism) assessment services:

1. For each NHS provider currently commissioned to deliver neurodivergent assessment services in your area, what is the total annual contract value for:
 - a) 2023/24
 - b) 2024/25
 - c) 2025/26 (to date)

If block contracts cover multiple services beyond neurodivergent assessments, please provide the total contract value and indicate what proportion or percentage relates to neurodivergent assessment services.

The Integrated Care Board (ICB) does not hold the specific information requested.

Neurodivergent assessment and treatment services (including ADHD and autism) are commissioned through block contracts with NHS provider organisations, which cover a range of mental health and community services. These contracts do not separately identify or disaggregate funding for individual service components, including neurodivergent assessment services.

As a result, the ICB does not hold recorded information showing:

- the total annual contract value attributable specifically to neurodivergent assessment services for the financial years requested; nor
- any proportion or percentage of block contract values that relate solely to neurodivergent assessment activity.

To extract or calculate this information would require the creation of new information through analysis or estimation, which the ICB is not required to do under the Freedom of Information Act.

2. What is the total spending on Right to Choose activity (payments to private/independent sector providers) for neurodivergent assessments for:
 - a) 2023/24
 - b) 2024/25
 - c) 2025/26 (to date)

Please note that a Section 12 (Cost Limit Exemption) has been applied to Question 2.

The ICB does hold recorded financial information relating to payments made under the Right to Choose (RTC) pathway, including activity associated with neurodivergent services. However, these costs are not itemised or recorded separately for neurodivergent assessments alone, and are instead included within broader invoice lines that also cover other activity such as follow-up appointments, treatment, and medication.

In order to identify and extract only the spending attributable specifically to neurodivergent assessments delivered under Right to Choose, staff would be required to manually review and analyse individual invoice lines.

For example, for the financial year 2024/25, we estimate that approximately 3,660 individual invoice lines would need to be reviewed. At a conservative estimate of 20 seconds per invoice line, this would equate to just over 20 hours of staff time. Extending this exercise across three financial years would therefore take in excess of 60 hours.

Under the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, the appropriate cost limit for NHS bodies is £450, which equates to 18 hours of staff time at £25 per hour. As the estimated time required to comply with this request significantly exceeds the statutory cost limit, the ICB is refusing to provide this information under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Advice and Assistance – Section 16 FOIA

In accordance with Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB is happy to provide advice and assistance to help you refine your request so that it may be answered within the appropriate cost limit.

It may be possible to provide high-level information on total Right to Choose expenditure relating to neurodivergent (ADHD and autism) assessment and treatment services for a more limited time period. If you wish to refine your request in this way, please let us know and we will be happy to assist.

3. How many neurodivergent assessments were completed by NHS-commissioned providers for:
 - a) 2023/24
 - b) 2024/25
 - c) 2025/26 (to date)

If complete data is not held by the ICB, please provide activity data available from provider reporting.

For children and young people, the table below provides data for the ICB's locally commissioned NHS services.

For adults, the ICB does not currently hold this information. You may wish to contact Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and how to submit a Freedom of Information request can be found on their website - <https://www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/c-freedom-of-information>.

Year	Adult or Children and Young People	Autism and ADHD assessments
2023/24	Children and Young People	2270
2024/25	Children and Young People	2556
2025/26 (Apr-Dec 25)	Children and Young People	1939 (please note data included for one of the ICB's providers is for January-September 2025. The ICB does not hold the data for October-December 2025 as the provider is no longer reporting this due to coding issues affecting data quality).

4. How many neurodivergent assessments were paid for via Right to Choose providers for:
- a) 2023/24
 - b) 2024/25
 - c) 2025/26 (to date)

This should be available from invoicing data even if individual patient-level data is not routinely collected by ICB.

Please note that a Section 12 (Cost Limit Exemption) has been applied to Question 4.

As outlined in our response to question 2, the ICB's invoicing data does not separately itemise neurodivergent assessments from other activity (including follow-ups, treatment, and medication). Identifying the specific number of neurodivergent assessments paid for via Right to Choose providers would therefore require manual review and analysis of individual invoice lines.

For the same reasons set out in question 2, and based on the same methodology and estimates, we calculate that complying with this request would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450 (18 hours of staff time) as defined under the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

The ICB is therefore refusing to provide this information under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

5. What were the average waiting times from referral to assessment for NHS-commissioned neurodivergent assessments for:
- a) 2023/24
 - b) 2024/25
 - c) 2025/26 (most recent data)

If ICB does not hold this data directly, please provide the most recent waiting time data reported by commissioned providers.

Children and Young People: The ICB does not hold recorded information on average waiting times from referral to assessment for NHS-commissioned neurodivergent assessments for children and young people.

This is because, in practice, average waiting times are not used by locally commissioned providers as a meaningful or reliable performance measure. Many children and young people will have been known to services for extended periods prior to a formal assessment pathway being identified. As a result, providers routinely report median waiting times, which better reflect the typical experience and reduce distortion caused by a small number of exceptionally long waits.

Where available, the ICB has therefore provided median waiting time data as reported by locally commissioned providers, as this represents the most accurate and meaningful data held.

Please note that there is one commissioned provider for whom the ICB does not hold waiting time information, and their data is therefore not included in the figures provided.

Adults: For adult neurodivergent assessment services, the ICB does hold data on average waiting times. However, it should be noted that work is currently underway to improve the quality, consistency, and accuracy of data collection and reporting across providers. As such, the figures provided represent the best available recorded information held at the time of this request.

Year	Adult or Children and Young People	Average Wait	Average Median Wait for the Year
2023/24	Adult	56 weeks	N/A
2023/24	Children and Young People	N/A	6-24 weeks
2024/25	Adult	79.57 weeks	N/A
2024/25	Children and Young People	N/A	6-29 weeks
2025/26 (to Dec-25)	Adult	102.66 weeks	N/A
2025/26 (Apr-Dec 25)	Children and Young People	N/A	9-29 weeks

6. Please provide a complete list of all providers that have invoiced your ICB for neurodivergent assessment services for:

- a) 2023/24
- b) 2024/25
- c) 2025/26 (to date)

For each of the financial years requested (2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26 to date), the following locally commissioned NHS providers have invoiced the ICB for neurodivergent assessment services:

- Doncaster and Bassetlaw NHS Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust
- Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

In relation to Right to Choose (RTC) activity, the ICB is unable to provide a year-by-year breakdown of providers that have invoiced for neurodivergent assessment services. This is because provider information is not held in a format that enables extraction and reporting by individual financial year without manual review of invoice-level data, which would exceed the appropriate cost limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

However, the ICB can confirm that the following Right to Choose providers have invoiced the ICB for neurodivergent assessment services during the period covered by this request:

- ADHD 360
- Atrom Mind Care
- Care ADHD
- Clinical Partners
- Dr J and Colleagues
- Evolve
- Harrow Health
- Held Health
- Health Harmonie
- Help for Psychology
- LaTahzan
- Mantle Psychology
- Oakdale Centre
- Problem Shared
- PSICON
- Psychiatry UK
- RTN Mental Health Solutions
- Skylight Psychiatry
- The Owl Centre.

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 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

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. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.