

19/06/2026

NN-ICB/26-1578

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 17 April 2026, regarding ADHD and autism waiting times, capacity and patient choice. 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:

I am requesting the current or most recent recorded information held by the ICB in relation to ADHD and autism diagnostic assessment services, including services delivered by both NHS and independent sector providers.

Where information is held separately, please provide it separately for each of the following pathways:

- a) Adult ADHD
- b) Children and young people's ADHD
- c) Adult autism
- d) Children and young people's autism

The ICB does not hold a single consolidated dataset or report covering ADHD and autism diagnostic assessment services across NHS and independent sector providers in the format requested.

1. Waiting times and performance

- 1.1 The current documented waiting time targets, trajectories, expected maximum waits, or other planning assumptions used by the ICB for referral to first diagnostic assessment.

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB does not hold this information.

- 1.2 The most recent routinely produced performance report or dashboard showing actual average waiting times from referral to first diagnostic assessment, broken down by commissioned provider where readily available.

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB does not hold this information.

- 1.3 The most recent routinely produced report or dashboard showing the number of individuals currently on the waiting list, broken down by commissioned provider where readily available.

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB does not hold this information.

- 1.4 Any current metadata, glossary or methodology note used by the ICB to define or calculate the waiting time and waiting list measures referred to in questions 2 and 3, if held.

The ICB does not hold the information for question 1; the information is collected at provider level. You may therefore wish to contact the relevant providers directly:

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

2. Demand, capacity and planning

- 2.1 The most recent final paper, report, analysis or dashboard used by the ICB to assess demand, capacity, and the impact on waiting times when deciding how much ADHD and/or autism diagnostic assessment activity to commission or fund.

The ICB does not hold a single final report or dashboard meeting the description requested. The ICB is currently reviewing the ADHD and Autism pathway for CYP and adults during 2026/27.

- 2.2 The current plan, recovery plan, transformation plan, service improvement plan, Service Development and Improvement Plan, or equivalent document relating to reducing ADHD and/or autism waiting times and/or increasing diagnostic assessment capacity.

The ICB does not hold a single standalone plan specifically covering ADHD and autism diagnostic waiting times or capacity as described in the request.

- 2.3 The most recent document, if any, identifying any mismatch between estimated referral demand and commissioned diagnostic assessment capacity for any of the above pathways, and setting out how the ICB intends to address that position.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs), including:

- [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment - Nottinghamshire Insight](#)
- [Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Autism Joint Strategic Needs Assessment JSNA.pdf](#)

The ICB is currently reviewing the end-to-end neurodevelopmental pathway and developing options to increase capacity and reduce waiting times.

3. Medium Term Planning Framework

The most recent document, paper or report that sets out how the ICB is meeting the requirements in the NHS Medium Term Planning Framework 2026/27 to 2028/29 to optimise existing resources to reduce long waits for autism and ADHD assessments and to increase community health service capacity to meet growth in demand.

Information on how the ICB meets the requirements in the NHS Medium Term Planning Framework 2026/2027 can be found in the links below:

- [Integrated Care Strategy 2023-2027 - NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS - NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS](#)

- [Our Strategies and Plans - NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB](#) Includes links to the ICB's five-year population health strategy and NHS joint forward plan
- [DLN Five Year Strategic Commissioning Plan 26-31.](#)

4. National ADHD Taskforce

The most recent final briefing, paper, action plan, implementation document or committee paper held by the ICB that discusses the findings or recommendations of the independent National ADHD Taskforce report, including any document setting out how the ICB intends to respond to or implement those recommendations locally.

The ICB does not currently hold recorded information in scope of this request.

While the findings of the National ADHD Taskforce are being considered as part of future service development, no final briefings, papers or implementation plans are held at this time.

5. Patient Choice

The current policy, guidance, briefing or instruction used by the ICB to ensure patient choice operates for ADHD and autism referrals, including any document used by referrers, triage teams, referral management services, or commissioning staff.

The most recent recorded assessment, analysis, briefing or decision paper, if any, considering whether commissioning different volumes of activity from different providers delivering comparable ADHD or autism diagnostic assessment services has the practical effect of constraining patient choice, including by limiting capacity or creating materially different waiting times between providers.

The ICB operates in line with national guidance:

- <https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/patient-choice-guidance/>

Supporting information is also available at:

- <https://www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk>
- [Home | Minds of All Kinds - Notts.](#)

The ICB does not hold a separate recorded assessment addressing the effect of commissioning volumes on patient choice within ADHD or autism pathways.

6. Equality and Quality

The most recent equality impact assessment, quality impact assessment, patient safety assessment, risk assessment, or similar document relating to ADHD and/or autism waiting list management, commissioning decisions, or service capacity.

The ICB holds Equality Impact Assessments (EQIAs) relating to specific commissioning decisions for children and young people's neurodevelopmental services, however, some of these documents are in draft, subject to governance approval, or contain commercially sensitive information and as such exemptions has been applied where relevant.

The ICB does not hold a single, standalone risk assessment document specific to ADHD or autism waiting list management. However, risks relating to these services are managed through the organisation's Joint Operational Risk Register.

7. Governance and oversight

The single most recent final board, committee, programme or senior management paper that discusses ADHD and/or autism waiting times, capacity, provider activity levels, or actions to improve access.

Please see response to Question 2.

8. ICB reorganisation / cluster arrangements

If the ICB is merging, clustering, being reorganised, or operating through a joint commissioning arrangement with another ICB or cluster, please confirm:

- a) the name of the new or successor body or cluster arrangement;

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB is now part of a cluster arrangement with Derby and Derbyshire ICB and Lincolnshire ICB, known as DLN.

- b) whether responsibility for ADHD and autism commissioning, service planning, or waiting list management sits wholly or partly at that level;

Adults and CYP: The responsibility for ADHD and Autism Commissioning, service planning and waiting list management currently sits at individual ICB level.

- c) please provide the equivalent recorded information requested above where it is held at that level rather than solely by the current ICB.

Further information is available at: [Home - NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB](#).

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 Governance and Assurance 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.