

Our Ref: 460/2023  
AUGUST 2023

## Re: Your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on behalf of Crohn's & Colitis UK to request the following information:

1. What is the average waiting time in weeks, by month from end August 2022 – end August 2023 or the most recent month available and the preceding 12 months , for a) red flag, b) urgent and c) non-urgent diagnostic colonoscopy referrals?
2. What is the average waiting time in weeks, by month from end August 2022 – end August 2023 or the most recent month available and the preceding 12 months, for a) red flag, b) urgent and c) non-urgent diagnostic flexible sigmoidoscopy referrals?

### Response:

Unfortunately, we do not have the information split in the way requested but we do submit aggregated data each month to NHS England which is published (along with other Trusts) at:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/diagnostics-waiting-times-and-activity/monthly-diagnostics-waiting-times-and-activity/>

Once you have reached this site, please click on the links to the appropriate years, then scroll down to the months and click on “Monthly Diagnostics – Provider” for the appropriate month.

Once the Excel file has loaded please go to the “Provider by Test” sheet.

If you then filter on our Trust name in the “Provider Name” column and on the two test names in the “Diagnostic Test Name”.

This will then give you an indication of the number of patients waiting at the end of that month along with some aggregated wait bands. This should give you an indication of the typical waiting times, for example in July 2023 the vast majority were waiting under 6 weeks.