

Our Ref: 250

February 2024

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

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the current wait times for autism assessments for children in the Doncaster area of South Yorkshire.

Specifically, I would like to obtain the following information:

1. The average waiting time from initial referral to the commencement of GDA assessments for children in Doncaster.

From 2023/2024 data- average waiting time is 72 weeks (March 24 is 64 weeks)

2. The average waiting time from initial referral to the commencement of Autism assessments for children in Doncaster.

From 2023/24 data:

Under 5's ASD pathway- average waiting time is 438 days

Over 5's ASD pathway- average waiting time is 1126 days

3. Any variations in wait times for different age groups within the paediatric population.

As Q2, differing waiting times for under 5 and over 5 ASD pathway

4. Information on any steps or measures being taken to address and reduce these wait times.

- Introduction of a multiagency triage panel for GDA referrals ensuring support is in place at the time of referral and that children are being signposted to the correct pathway. Some children bypass the GDA now and go directly onto the ASD/ADHD pathway.
- Healios- digital offer for assessment of ASD, limited number as per ICB funding