

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request

Date Request Received: 22nd July 2025

FOI Ref No 29650

Requested Information:

1. Please provide your total annual spend and total number of patients (for each of the last three financial years) on ADHD and Autism assessments, broken down by age categories as listed below.

*For definition of “third party private providers” please see below. An example list of providers (for ADHD) can be found [here](#)

TOTAL		Apr-22-Mar-23	Apr-23-Mar-24	Apr-24-Mar-25
ADHD assessments – patients 18 years old and over	Total number of patients			
	Total annual spend			
ADHD assessments – patients <18 years old	Total number of patients			
	Total annual spend			
Autism assessments - patients 18 years old and over	Total number of patients			
	Total annual spend			
Autism assessments - patients <18 years old	Total number of patients			
	Total annual spend			

2. For Apr-24-Mar-25, please split out the total number of patients / annual spend from question 1 by those delivered in-house vs those delivered by third party private providers* (for Apr-24-Mar-25). Please use one row for each third party private provider and please also include the pathway / contract type for each third party private provider (e.g. block contract, right to choose):

Provider	Apr-24-Mar-25					
	Pathway	ADHD – 18 years old and over patient numbers	ADHD – <18 years old patient numbers	Autism – 18 years old and over patient numbers	Autism – 18 years old patient numbers	Total annual spend
Example: Provider A	Right to Choose	X	X	X	X	£Xk
Example: Provider B	Block contract	X	X	X	X	£Xk
Example: In-house delivery	n/a	X	X	X	X	n/a
Total (should align with question 1 total for Apr-24-Mar-25)		X	X	X	X	£Xk

3. For Apr-24-Mar-25, please provide your total annual spend on the following post-diagnostic services. Please find definitions for post-diagnostic services at the end of the request. Please include volumes where your Trust / Health Board has commissioned third party provider(s) to deliver the service.

Annual spend	Prescriptions	Medication	Therapies	Psychoeducation	Other support services
ADHD – patients 18 years old and over					
ADHD – patients <18 years old					
Autism - patients 18 years old and over					
Autism - patients <18 years old					

4. What is the FTE of employed clinicians in the Trust / Health Board who can conduct ADHD / Autism assessments, or prescribe ADHD medications? If possible, please split by role type. Please provide answers based on FTE (rather than headcount). Please exclude vacancies.

	ADHD assessments	Autism assessments	ADHD prescriptions
Psychiatrists			
Paediatricians			
Specialist nurses			
Speech and language therapists			
Clinical psychologists			
Social workers			
Other			
Total (FTE)			

5. Please provide the current number of patients, that are currently waiting for an ADHD or Autism assessment at your Trust / Health Board. Please also provide the average (mean) time spent on the wait list before receiving an assessment at your Trust / Health Board. Please include the date which your figures are based on.

	ADHD assessments	Autism assessments
Number of patients (18 years old and over)		
Average wait time (18 years old and over)		
Number of patients (<18 years old)		
Average wait time (<18 years old)		

Definitions:

- **Third-party private providers**

Refers to independent, non-NHS organisations contracted to deliver ADHD and / or Autism services. These providers operate outside of NHS Trusts / ICBs / Health Boards and typically deliver services such as assessments, prescribing, post-diagnostic support, and therapy. Examples may include (but are not limited to) ADHD 360, Psychiatry UK, Clinical Partners, and Evolve Psychology. These providers may deliver services under direct contracts with the ICB, via framework agreements, or under the NHS Right to Choose pathway.

- **Prescriptions**
Refers to the administrative cost of issuing and managing prescriptions. This includes clinical time spent generating repeat prescriptions, as well as costs related to digital or manual prescription systems.
Note: This does not include the cost of the medication itself (see 'Medication').
- **Medication**
Refers to the actual cost of purchasing and supplying medicines, including stimulants and non-stimulants (e.g. methylphenidate, atomoxetine, guanfacine). This includes the drug cost, as invoiced by the provider or pharmacy.
- **Therapies**
Refers to post-diagnostic therapeutic interventions, such as talking therapies, cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), counselling, behavioural coaching, occupational therapy, or speech and language therapy, where these are part of the ADHD or Autism treatment pathway.
- **Psychoeducation**
Refers to structured sessions aimed at helping patients, families and/or schools understand and manage ADHD or Autism. This may include workshops, group education programmes, or 1:1 educational support on condition management, lifestyle strategies, or behaviour planning.
- **Other Support Services**
Refers to additional post-assessment services not captured under therapy or psychoeducation. This may include digital tools, care coordination, coaching, employment or educational support, or clinician-led review sessions that do not fall under prescribing or therapy categories.

Response:

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST: 29650

I refer to your request under the Freedom of Information Act for information regarding ADHD and Autism Assessments.

I can confirm that the Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust (RCHT) does not hold the information falling within the description provided.

Having reviewed your request for information, we have identified that due to the nature of the information that you are seeking, your request may be more appropriately addressed to **Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust**

May I suggest that you re-direct your request to that authority? Contact details are as follows:

- By Post to: Information Governance – Freedom of information team, Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Head Office, Carew House, Beacon Technology Park, Dunmere Road, Bodmin, PL31 2QN
- By Email to: cpn-tr.freedomofinformation@nhs.net

If you have any queries or concerns, then please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Information Governance Manager, Knowledge spa, Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3LJ or e-mail rch-tr.FOI@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Royal Cornwall Hospital.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113 or 01625 54 57 45
www.ico.org.uk

Attachment(s):

No Attachment(s)

Date Response sent: 11th August 2025