

Date: 06/07/2026

Our ref: FOI 12755

Enquiries to: Fife FOI Officer

Direct line: 01383 565194 | Extension: 35194 | Email: [fife.foirequestfife@nhs.scot](mailto:fife.foirequestfife@nhs.scot)

Thank you for your information request, made on 25/06/2026, under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOI(S)A).

NHS Fife has completed a full and exhaustive search for information held in relation to your request and can provide the following response.

### **Request:**

Please provide the following two figures for each of the four assessment types listed below, as current point-in-time figures where possible, or alternatively for the most recent available period:

- a) The median waiting time in weeks from GP referral to first assessment appointment
- b) The total number of people currently on the waiting list

The four assessment types are:

- 1. Adult ADHD assessment
- 2. CAMHS (under 18) ADHD assessment
- 3. Adult autism assessment
- 4. CAMHS (under 18) autism assessment

If any of the above is not held in a readily reportable format, please provide the nearest available equivalent and indicate what that is.

### **Response:**

On review of this request, Section 12 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 has been applied in accordance with statutory requirements. Section 12 has been partially applied to your response as the cost of identifying, locating and retrieving the information exceeds the £600 statutory limit, a calculation has been provided below to evidence this. Further information and resources on exemptions within the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, can be found in section 1.0 Appendixes and Resources.

### **Exemption:**

Section 12 – Excessive cost of compliance.

**Applied:**

Section 12 has been applied to questions one (1) and three (3).

**Exemption Rationale:**

Section 12 has been applied as the estimated cost of identifying, locating and retrieving the requested information exceeds the £600 statutory limit. Public authorities are not required to comply with requests above this threshold. A calculation has been provided below evidencing this threshold has been exceeded.

**Guide to Exemption:**

[FeesandExcessiveCostofComplianceBriefing.pdf](#)

1. NHS Fife Health and Social Care Partnership Complex and Critical Care Adult Mental Health Service does not have a specific ADHD/ASD/Neurodevelopmental pathway. Patients referred for Adult ADHD or Autism assessment are referred under the standard process of all referrals to the NHS Fife Health and Social Care Partnership Mental Health Service. Reason for referral or assessment type/condition is not specifically recorded electronically and therefore not available to extract.

A manual review of individual cases to confirm and extract the number of Adult ADHD/Autism referrals, wait times and assessments information would cost NHS Fife in excess of £600 to collate the information requested, therefore, under section 12 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this information is not provided.

It is likely to require at least 714 hours of work to complete this activity, plus the time to collate the response.

The approximate cost is estimated at 714 hours x £15 = £10,710.00. This exceeds the upper limit of £600 and is evidenced in the calculation below:

Approximately 8,570 records require to be manually checked to obtain the information requested

$8,570 \text{ (records)} / 12 \text{ records per hour} = 714 \text{ hours}$   
 $714 \times £15.00 \text{ (hourly rate)} = £10,710.00.$

2. All neurodevelopmental assessments are managed within the Fife multi-agency neurodevelopmental pathway (NDP) in Fife ([Mood Cafe | Welcome to Fife's Neurodevelopmental Hub](#)). For all cases triaged for ADHD assessment (not just GP referrals) as of 26 June 2026:
  - a) Median wait for ADHD assessment = 22 weeks
  - b) Total number waiting for an ADHD assessment = 297

3. NHS Fife Health and Social Care Partnership Complex and Critical Care Adult Mental Health Service does not have a specific ADHD/ASD/Neurodevelopmental pathway. Patients referred for Adult ADHD or Autism assessment are referred under the standard process of all referrals to the NHS Fife Health and Social Care Partnership Mental Health Service. Reason for referral or assessment type/condition is not specifically recorded electronically and therefore not available to extract.

A manual review of individual cases to confirm and extract the number of Adult ADHD/Autism referrals, wait times and assessments information would cost NHS Fife in excess of £600 to collate the information requested, therefore, under section 12 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this information is not provided.

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8,570 (records)/12 records per hour = 714 hours  
714 x £15.00 (hourly rate) = £10,710.00.

4. All neurodevelopmental assessments are managed within the Fife multi-agency neurodevelopmental pathway (NDP) in Fife ([Mood Cafe | Welcome to Fife's Neurodevelopmental Hub](#)). For all cases triaged for ADHD assessment (not just GP referrals) as of 26 June 2026:

For all cases triaged for ASD assessment (not just GP referrals) as of 26 June 2026:

- a) Median wait for ASD assessment = 89 weeks
- b) Total number waiting for an ASD assessment = 113

On behalf of NHS Fife, we hope this information is helpful. If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of this request, you have the right to request a review.

If you require this information in another language or format (e.g. Braille, audio, large print) please contact the Equality and Human Rights Team at:

Email: [fife.EqualityandHumanRights@nhs.scot](mailto:fife.EqualityandHumanRights@nhs.scot)  
Phone: 01592 729130.

Alternatively, you can also contact the team via the NHS Fife SMS text service number on 07805800005 or call using ContactScotlandBSL for BSL-users.

Please find further information on requests reviews in 1.0 Appendixes and Resources.

Kind Regards,

The NHS Fife FOI Team  
[fife.foirequestfife@nhs.scot](mailto:fife.foirequestfife@nhs.scot)

## **Appendixes and Resources**

### **1.0 Request Reviews**

Requests for review must be made in writing, setting out the reasons for seeking a review. and must be received within **40 working days** of the date you received this response.

The review will be carried out by a senior member of staff who was not involved in the original decision. Following the review, if you remain dissatisfied, you have the right to apply to the **Scottish Information Commissioner** for a decision.

Further information on request reviews can be accessed via the Scottish Information Commissioner website: [Asking the authority for a review | Scottish Information Commissioner](#)

### **2.0 NHS Fife Model Publication Scheme**

NHS Fife's Model Publication Scheme, guide to information – aims to ensure and promote transparency, accountability and openness through proactively publishing information in line with the classification set out by the Scottish Information Commissioner.

NHS Fife Model Publication Scheme can be accessed via the organisation's website: [Guide to Information available through the Model Publication Scheme | NHS Fife](#)

### **3.0 NHS Fife Freedom of Information Policy**

NHS Fife's Freedom of Information Policy GP/F1 Freedom of Information policy can be accessed via the organisation's website: [Freedom of Information | NHS Fife](#)

### **4.0 Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002**

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, can be accessed on the below link: [Freedom of Information \(Scotland\) Act 2002](#)

### **5.0 Guide to Exemptions**

Briefing notes and guidance on exemptions can be accessed on the links below:

Scottish Information Commissioner Office guidance: [Briefings and guidance | Scottish Information Commissioner](#)

Scottish Information Commissioner Office exemption briefings: [FOISA exemptions | Scottish Information Commissioner](#)