

## **FOI 0361/2023 Response**

### **Request**

\*\*\*Follow up request to FOI 0289/2023

I wonder if you could confirm whether the figures you provide for waiting lists and times included psychological services, ADHD assessment etc?

If not, please could you send new figures including that service if you provide it?

(This is to enable the creation of an accurate national picture across the UK for a news story aimed at highlighting pressures on children's mental health services post-pandemic.)

### **Response**

The response provided to you for FOI 0289/2023 explicitly relates to the Trust's Solihull CAMHS service - Solar, and therefore includes all psychological services that sit within the Trust's CAMHS service.

The Trust is not commissioned to provide ADHD services for Children and Young People (CYP) and we refer any CYP in need of an ADHD CAMHS service to University Hospitals Birmingham.

Please also note that the increased waiting times for Q1 within FOI 0289/2023 is attributed to the following:

- High turnover of Staff and difficulty in replacing staff.
- Covid-19 impacted the number of referrals received from regular sources due to the restrictions. Following the lifting of restrictions, there were a significant increase in referrals.
- Reduced number of training places as a result of Covid-19. The universities were not running the courses that the service relied on for the trainee staff members.
- There was a change in some of the courses run by the Universities. The changes meant that you could only have a recruit to train post, if you had a vacant post within the service. Hence the reduction in trainees within the service, that would have been supporting with the first appointments.
- School closures during Covid- 19 lockdown. The schools were not referring as the Child and Young Person were home schooled and minimal contact.
- Increase in referrals post lock down and referrals increased when the schools were re-opened.
- Mental Health Support Team's were initiated in 2021 and were taking referrals prior to the staff being signed off as fully trained to start to deliver assessments etc.

