

**Information Governance**

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13 June 2018  
Reference no. 18190073

Dear

**Request for Information: Freedom of Information Act**

Thank you for your email of 15 May making a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. You requested the following information and the Trust is able to provide the information below in response:

**Request**

I apply under the terms of the Freedom of Information legislation for the following information about accessibility and waiting times for CAMHS services for children and young people aged 10 to 17 (inclusive) within the period between 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017 (if data during this period is unavailable, please provide us with your most recent data).

With this Freedom of Information request, we aim to establish a national picture of the availability and accessibility of CAMHS for particular groups of children and young people, including the length of waiting times.

We would be grateful if you could respond and share the information requested. This FOI request is being sent to all Mental Health Trusts in England. Once we have compiled responses we will be happy to provide you with a report tailored for your Mental Health Trust, setting your response within the wider regional context. We will also provide you with recommendations and share examples of good practice.

If you have any questions about this FOI request, please contact Charlotte Rainer on [Charlotte.Rainer@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:Charlotte.Rainer@childrenssociety.org.uk), or on 020 7841 4660.

**Response:**

The Trust are unable to comply with your request as to do so would require the Trust to exceed the appropriate limit set by section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act in regulation. The information is stored in individual patient electronic health records, some

items in data fields but many in an unstructured manner and to manually review the data and collate the information would exceed the 18 hours set by section 12.

There are approximately 20000 records to review. After consultation and consideration with the service the Trust have concluded that, due to the level of review, analysis and validation required to collate the data (even if it only took 1 minute per record) over 300 hours to comply with your request, which exceeds the 18 hours set in section 12.

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 me and I will ensure the decision is reviewed. The Trust will consider undertaking a review if requested to do so within 40 working days of the date the response is received by the applicant, and will apply discretion if a longer period of time has passed.

Should you wish to make a complaint as a result of the outcome of such a review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision.

Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust for FoI Act matters.

The ICO can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

Please contact me if there are any further queries.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mark Underwood

Head of Information Governance