

Freedom of Information Request	FOI 21-186	19 th May 2021
--------------------------------	------------	---------------------------

Please could your Health Authority:

- 1. Supply any document that describes the monthly assessment capacity of your services that receives referrals from schools, of children thought to have neurodevelopmental needs.**

The Health Board neuro-developmental secondary assessment team has capacity to appoint 35 initial appointments per month.
- 2. Supply any document that describes the average number of such referrals to this services in each month.**

The Health Board SPACE (Single Point of Access for Children with Emotional) Wellbeing neuro-developmental service has been in place since April 2021. Prior to this, neuro-developmental referrals were processed by the ISCAN (Integrated Service for Children with Additional Needs) service. On average, the service receives 35 referrals per month.
- 3. Supply any document that describes the current average waiting time from referral to assessment.**

The Health Boards neuro-developmental service's average waiting time from referral to assessment is appointing 80% of children waiting in a 26 week period on the waiting list.
- 4. Supply any document that describes the waiting time between the assessment being done and the school receiving a report of the child's needs.**

The Health Boards neuro-developmental service average waiting time target from start of assessment to completion of assessment is 16-weeks, this is an internal target and is dependent upon the complexity of the assessment.
- 5. Confirm the date of referral of the child who has been awaiting assessment for the longest period. Were there any mitigating circumstances that you can disclose for this.**

The date of referral of the child who has been waiting for the start of the assessment for the longest period is 23rd October 2020. There are no mitigating circumstances as the referral to treatment Target (RTT) for appointing children is 80% of children waiting in a 26 week period on the waiting list. An invite to phone for an appointment letter has been sent to the parents.
- 6. Supply any document that sets out an agreed Memorandum of Understanding (or similar) between your Board and one or more Local Authorities that describes how both your Health Board and the Local Authority/Authorities concerned intend to manage this service**

so that is compliant with the United Nations Charter regarding the rights of a child and, also the Future Generations Act in Wales.

The Health Board is responsible for the provision of the neuro-developmental service. A memorandum of understanding (or similar) for the service does not exist with Local Authorities.

7. If not contained in 6 above, supply any document that describes how your Board and, the Local Authorities served by your Board intend to ensure that the waiting time for assessment does not exceed that set out in NICE and other guidelines.

The Health Board is committed to ensuring that waiting times for a neuro-developmental assessment adhere to the Welsh Government RTT target of 80%. The waiting list is monitored regularly at a strategic level and supported by the SPACE (Single Point of Access for Children with Emotional) Wellbeing neuro-developmental service to ensure that children are appointed within the expected waiting times.

Children and Young People Neurodevelopment Assessment – Wait Times information (number of patients accessing the service and waiting to be seen by target) is also reported monthly to Welsh Government by the Health Board.

Please note that as each child's circumstance is different (i.e. living with parent/foster carer, current school, the referrer etc) information on support from the service is only provided once a referral has been accepted on to the waiting list. Once accepted, the team will make contact verbally to confirm waiting times, assessment process etc. The attached leaflet is also provided. The service has recently developed a new guide called 'your child's neuro- developmental assessment' which is currently in draft format. The guide will contain information in relation to waiting times, expectations etc. and once approved, will be provided to service users when contact is made.