

Maximum/minimum waiting times for adults and children accessing mental health services

Request

I would like to receive the following information under the FOI Act relating to the care of people with mental health problems.

What are the minimum and maximum waiting times in weeks for a) children and b) adults to access the following:

- * cognitive behavioural therapy
- * appointment with a psychologist
- * appointment with a psychiatrist
- * counselling
- * other mental health services

Our Response

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OUR RESPONSE:

Unfortunately, we do not hold waiting times for Psychologists or Psychiatrists separately to our overall waiting times; neither do we provide counselling services. Furthermore, we report our waiting times by the average waiting time to first appointment within each division of services rather than by individual services within the divisions.

In an effort to be helpful, however, I have received confirmation from the Head of Adult Mental Health Services that the current waiting time for Cognitive Behavioural Therapy is 4-6 weeks. He was also able to confirm that the current waiting time for assessment by either a Psychologist or Psychiatrist is 4 weeks and also that we comply with the national target of a maximum 18wks to treatment.

Please also find below our average waiting times for the divisions within Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust, as at 30 September 2011:

DIVISIONS		ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	ADULT LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES	COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES	FAMILIES, YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDRENS SERVICES
SERVICES		Assertive Outreach, Community Mental Health teams, Liaison Psychiatry, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Dynamic Psychotherapy, Good Thinking, Open Mind, Personality Disorders and Medical & Neurological services	Learning Disability Services	Allied Health Professionals, Minor Injuries Unit, Mental Health for Older People, Community Services	Child & Adolescent MH Services (CAMHS), Eating Disorders, Drug & Alcohol, Psychosis intervention & early recovery (PIER)
Average Waiting Time (weeks) to First Appointment	Sep-11	4.93	6.72	4.28	7.95