

Freedom of Information (FOI)

The Balfour
Foreland Road
Kirkwall
Orkney
KW15 1NZ
www.ohb.scot.nhs.uk



Date: 11/08/2026

Via email: hello@adhdscot.co.uk

Tel: 01856 888 220
Enquiries to: FOI Officer
Email: ork.foirequests@nhs.scot

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: Freedom of Information Request 202627/138 - ADHD/Autism Waiting Times Orkney

Your Query and NHSO Response	Date of Request	June 2026
I am making a request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 on behalf of ADHD Scot, an independent, non-clinical information project providing trusted, reliable information on ADHD and autism assessments in Scotland, for both NHS and private providers. I intend to publish the data on the ADHD Scot website (adhdscot.co.uk) in a simple table format, showing each Scottish health board's figures alongside the date the data was provided, to help people understand current waiting times and consider their options. 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 a) The NHS Orkney Adult Neurodevelopmental Service is unable to provide accurate expected waiting times for neurodevelopmental assessment, as waiting times are determined by individual clinical need, the complexity of referrals, and service capacity at any given time. At present, the service is assessing adults with neurodevelopmental conditions (ADHD, Autism, or both) who were referred in November 2024. b) Approximately 139 for both ADHD and/or autism assessment. 2. CAMHS (under 18) ADHD assessment a) CAMHS are unable to accurately provide expected waiting times for an ND assessment, as this depends on clinical need and capacity of the CAMHS service. b) NHS Orkney does not currently have a separate Paediatric Neurodevelopmental Service. The CAMHS ND pathway is for individuals open to CAMHS with comorbid complex mental health problems who are awaiting neurodevelopmental assessment. The CAMHS pathway is for assessment of neurodevelopmental conditions, rather than a single condition approach to assessment. We are therefore unable to provide a number for those under the age of 18 who are currently waiting to be assessed for ADHD, as requested. The number of children/young people currently on the CAMHS neurodevelopmental assessment waiting list is 25. 3. Adult autism assessment – As above.		

Orkney NHS Board Headquarters: The Balfour, Foreland Road, Kirkwall, Orkney KW15 1NZ

Board Chair: David Campbell

Interim Chief Executive: James Goodyear

4. CAMHS (under 18) autism assessment – [As above](#).

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

I hope this helps with your request.

NHS Orkney is a small remote and rural health board within Scotland. All responses to Freedom of Information requests are collated in accordance with the terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Under section 20(1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Orkney has dealt with your request, you have a right to ask for a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request.

A request for review should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter and NHS Orkney will reply within 20 working days of receipt. Review requests should be sent in writing to FOI officer, NHS Orkney, The Balfour, Foreland Road, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1NZ or by e-mail via ork.foirequests@nhs.scot.

Requests for appeal should be made in writing to: Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS. Telephone: 01334 464610, Email: enquiries@foi.scot.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Officer
NHS Orkney