NHS Tayside has now considered your request dated 07 December 2018.

NHS Tayside wishes to advise you that there are exemptions applicable to the information requested. Please refer to the exemptions section of this correspondence.

Extract from Request

“What is your current autism waiting time (average, shortest, longest) referral to diagnosis for children?

Can you break this down to referral to first appointment and give the waiting time (average, shortest, longest)?

How many children are awaiting diagnosis currently? Please can you break down the number of children with a booked future appointment and those waiting without an appointment?

Can you provide a copy of the diagnosis pathway, please?”

Response

Information surrounding waiting times for autism is not currently available; the waiting time lists are under review. However, the following response has been coordinated by paediatricians in Angus, Perth and Kinross and Dundee.

In community paediatrics we see pre-school children, referred with a wide variety of developmental difficulties. All children are initially seen in a pre-school clinic for developmental assessment. Some of these children may present at different stages with symptoms suggestive of social communication difficulties, but this needs to be considered with respect to their developmental abilities, social circumstances and opportunities. Many of these children require time in various environments to see how their social skills develop, and so our assessments require being flexible to meet the needs of each individual child. It is therefore difficult to give clear timescales or numbers with respect to the questions in your request.

Please see appended below the Preschool Neurodevelopment Assessment Pathway.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Ref.</th>
<th>FOISA Exemption Applied</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGTFOISA 5697</td>
<td>Section 17 – Information not held</td>
<td>Information requested is not currently available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Tayside has dealt with your request, you have a right to request a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request, and you have a right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commission.

A request for an internal review must be made in writing no later than forty working days from receipt of this response and addressed to:

Tayside NHS Board Secretary
Tayside NHS Board Headquarters
Ninewells Hospital & Medical School
Dundee
DD1 9SY

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision. The Scottish Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS

Or via the online appeal service: www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

If you have any queries about this correspondence, please contact:

Information Governance Team
Maryfield House
30 Mains Loan
Dundee
DD4 7BT

Telephone - 01382 424436
E-mail: informationgovernance.tayside@nhs.net

Information Governance
NHS Tayside
7 January 2019
**PRESCHOOL NEURODEVELOPMENTAL ASSESSMENT PATHWAY**

- **Referral Received**
  - Allocation
    - Doesn’t meet referral criteria
      - Redirect/Return to Referrer with feedback
    - Meets referral criteria
      - Pre-School Developmental Clinic
        - Further Monitoring and Assessment
          - Possible ADHD/Complex/Mental health issue
            - Refer to CAMHS when age appropriate
            - Transition Review
              - Discharge
        - Global/Other Developmental Concerns
          - No Developmental Concerns
            - Discharge
              - Feedback to referrer/GP
          - ASD Concerns
            - See pathway next page
        - Discharge
          - Feedback to referrer/GP
  - Developmental history
    - Physical examination
    - Developmental Assessment
    - Medical Investigations if indicated
ASD PATHWAY

Joint Assessment Clinic (Paediatrician and Specialist SLT)

Meets ASD diagnostic criteria

ASD Diagnosis

Ongoing review JAC/SLT/Developmental clinic

Needs further assessment

Tertiary level assessment

ADOS/“Secondary level”
Paediatrics/SLT/Psychology/OT

No ADOS trained SLT Dundee
At present no psychology input Angus and Perth
No cover 0.1 wte psychology input Dundee
No OT input to any teams

Information re community support

SLT input as appropriate

Post diagnosis review and transition review as appropriate

ASD

Not ASD/Complex

Complex/Other mental health issue

Discharge

Transition Review

Refer CAMHS