



Kent and Medway

NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust

Information Governance & Records Management Department

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Dear [REDACTED]

Request for Information

I write further to your request FOI ID 154 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding:-

Therapy Waiting Times

Your request is set out below:

Please confirm the average waiting time for referral to initial appointment for Younger and Older Adult CMHTs for current, 1 year ago and 5 years ago.

Currently

Team	Average days to assessment
CMHSOP	89
CMHT	26

1 Year ago

Team	Average days to assessment
CMHSOP	42
CMHT	32

5 years ago

Team	Average days to assessment
CMHSOP	20
CMHT	45

Over the last five years we have seen a large increase in the number of referrals received by our Community Mental Health Services for Older People (CMHSOP). This is in part due to Covid-19, however we did continue to provide our services via video and telephone throughout the pandemic. To help reduce the lengthy waiting times for assessment, we have increased service capacity through the use of locums and GPs with a specialist interest in dementia, and are working with our clinician colleagues to understand what additional support we can put into place.

Currently, whilst an individual is awaiting an appointment they receive regular contact from the KMPT community mental health teams and are signposted to appropriate support. Individuals on our waiting lists

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Trust Chair – Dr Jackie Craissati

Chief Executive – Helen Greatorex

are regularly reviewed by clinicians in our active review team. Those awaiting assessment are given a contact name within the team and should their condition change, the team can escalate and review at the Daily Risk Evaluation and Decision (RED) Board meetings. Any individual waiting longer than three months for an assessment is reviewed again in person.

I confirm that the information above completes your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am also pleased to confirm that no charge will be made for this request.

If you have any questions or concerns or are unhappy with the response provided or the service you have received you can write to the Head of Information Governance at the address on top of this letter. If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Yours Sincerely

On Behalf of
The Information Governance Department