

FOI 1367/12

1. **How many adults you have with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder (any, although if there are separate statistics for Asperger's, HFA, LFA, they would be appreciated) in your area?**

Total number of people aged 18 - 64 predicted to have autistic spectrum disorders in NHS North Lancashire is 2,007.

2. **How many children?**

Unfortunately we cannot currently identify the number of children with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder in the North Lancashire area. We are working with the providers of our services to develop a more robust system of data collection.

3. **What diagnostic services are available to a) adults and b) children?**

a) When an autism assessment is deemed clinically appropriate the Primary Care Trust currently commissions this with either of the following two NHS providers. The choice to the provider will depend on the patients clinical circumstances.

Sheffield Asperger's Service, Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust and Liverpool Asperger's Team, Olive Mount, Liverpool.

b) This is a multi-agency/professional approach led by paediatricians.

4. **What agencies or teams you have that work with autistic people, provide support/services, strategies, etc?**

The Primary Care Trust does not commission any agencies or teams that work solely with adults with autism.

5. **An e-mail address/website for each of these agencies or teams where possible.**

Not applicable for adults.

6. **What the typical process should be for an adult in your area first asking their GP for an assessment for autistic spectrum disorder to receiving a diagnosis/support?**

The process for an adult after asking their GP for an assessment would be as follows:-

GP completes and submits electronically a funding application form to the Primary Care Trust. The funding decision would be made within twenty eight days.

Following the decision, if approved at panel, the referrer and provider who would be involved with undertaking the assessment would be informed by letter. Following the approval of the assessment the Primary Care Trust would not usually have any further involvement with the patient.