

If calling please ask for  
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**Clinical Commissioning Group**

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[www.tamesideandglossopccg.org](http://www.tamesideandglossopccg.org)

Our ref: MS/JG/FOI. 1251

Date: 25 July 2012

To: Sarah McCulloch

SOIK  
26/7  
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Dear Ms McCulloch

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

I am writing concerning your request for information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I can confirm the following in response to your request.

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;

**We do not have any figures about those with a diagnosis as these are not held on any central point of reference.**

2. How many children;

**We do not collect data under diagnostic labels so cannot provide this information. We have information from MAAT that shows that since September 2008 114 children have been diagnosed with autism.**

3. What diagnostic services are available to

a) adults

**Adults with LD can access diagnostic assessment through the Learning Disability Psychologist Service. Adults who do not have a LD currently have to go out of area for diagnostic assessment.**

Cont/d....

Interim Chief Operating Officer: Steve Allinson Chair: Dr Raj Patel  
NHS Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group

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and

b) children;

**Children are identified by early years and school staff trained in recognising indicators of autism and referred to the Multi Agency Assessment Team (MAAT) for advice and assessment if required.**

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

**a) The MAAT sits under the umbrella of ISCAN (Integrated Service for Children with Additional Needs). The team is made up of health, social and educational staff who work with families and schools to meet the needs of children.**

**b) In Tameside we have a local parent-led charity, TASCA, for families with a child with autism.**

**c) Main special schools are Oakdale and Cromwell  
<http://www.oakdale.tameside.sch.uk/>  
<http://www.cromwell.tameside.sch.uk/>**

**Adults with autism are able to access all services that are available to the general population (as well as specific services for LD if they have an additional learning disability) including social care where assessment of eligibility will determine access to more specific support services. Specific support related to autism screening, understanding, developing strategies, social skills, etc. can be accessed through the autism nursing services.**

5. An email address/website for each of these agencies or teams where possible.

**ISCAN - [http://www.tamesideandglossop.nhs.uk/templates/Page\\_4239.aspx](http://www.tamesideandglossop.nhs.uk/templates/Page_4239.aspx)  
TASCA [www.tasca.org.uk/](http://www.tasca.org.uk/)**

**The autism nursing service can be contacted by e-mail to [d.redfearn@nhs.net](mailto:d.redfearn@nhs.net) with information on the service available at [http://tamesideandglossop.nhs.uk/templates/Page\\_1869.aspx](http://tamesideandglossop.nhs.uk/templates/Page_1869.aspx)**

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 GP can refer to the autism specialist nurse and then usually the autism nurse undertakes an initial screening, followed by MH assessment to explore possible other indications and then an application is made for funding for a diagnosis out of area if deemed appropriate.**

Cont/d.....

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**Contact And Appeal**

If you have any queries about the contents of this response, please contact Mr M Simon by e-mail at the following e-mail address: [freedom-of-information@tamesideandglossop.nhs.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information@tamesideandglossop.nhs.uk) or by telephone, 0161 304 5307.

If you wish to appeal against the PCT's response to your request please forward your complaint to the Chief Executive of the PCT either at the above e-mail address or by post at the address provided below to ensure that your complaint is investigated. A response will be provided to you within 20 working days of receipt.

Managing Director  
NHS Tameside and Glossop  
New Century House  
Progress Way  
Windmill Lane  
Denton  
M34 2GP

Yours sincerely

**MARK SIMON**  
**HEAD OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, RISK AND COMPLAINTS**

**Interim Chief Operating Officer: Steve Allinson    Chair: Dr Raj Patel**  
**NHS Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group**

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