

# Dumfries and Galloway NHS Board

Chief Executive's Office  
Communications/  
Freedom of Information

Mid North  
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Ref.: 12-201  
Date: 31 July 2012

Sarah McCulloch

Dear Ms McCulloch

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

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;**  
Data not held in a reportable format
2. **How many children;**  
372
3. **What diagnostic services are available to a) adults and b) children;**
  - a) There is a team of clinicians including Consultant Psychiatrist, Psychologists, Nursing and Occupational Therapist who will provide an assessment and diagnostic service around ASD. They will also provide short term support and advice. As this is provided within existing resources, the team offer a tertiary service to the Community Mental Health Teams and Mental Health Service.
  - b) There is no specific specialist assessment & diagnostic service for Adults with ASD, however there is a Consultant Psychiatrist did providing an assessment service providing diagnosis.
4. **What agencies or teams you have that work with autistic people, provide support /services, strategise, etc.**

For children:  
ASDIN (ASD Integrated Network) – coordinator Laura Dykes, St Theresa's Education Centre, lochside Road, Dumfries DG2 ODY 01387273950, [laura.dykes@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:laura.dykes@dumgal.gov.uk)

Other services such as CAMHS, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy (all at NHS Dumfries and Galloway) provide input about specific issues associated with ASD diagnosis.

The D&G ASD Strategy Group chaired by Stewart Biggar ([Stewart.Biggar@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:Stewart.Biggar@dumgal.gov.uk)) responsible for development of strategy

For adults:  
The Communication Disorder Assessment Team is multi-agency. Contact Mary Mack Clinical Coordinator, or Susan Lawley Admin assistant 01387244566. Based at Nithbank Hospital, Dumfries. The diagnostic team comprises – Child & Adolescent Psychiatrists; Community Paediatrician; Speech & Language Therapists; Occupational Therapists; Educational Psychologists and Clinical Psychologist

Chief Executive: Jeff Ace

5. **An email address/website for each of these agencies or teams where possible.**  
Above
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.**  
Currently if adults present at the GP requesting an assessment re ASD they refer to Psychology or Mental Health Services.

Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 if you are dissatisfied with our response you are entitled to request a review. A request for a review must be made in writing to Jeff Ace, Chief Executive, NHS Dumfries and Galloway. Mid North, Crichton Hall, The Crichton, Dumfries, DG1 4TG, no later than 40 working days from 31 July 2012. You must provide your name, an address for correspondence, details of your original request and say why you want a review. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John A Glover', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John A Glover  
Head of Communications/Freedom of Information Officer