

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4751

Please reply to:
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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to audiology services providing diagnostic hearing assessments and hearing aid provision for children.

You asked:

Please answer the questions below based on the situation as of 31 March 2018.

1. *Please provide the following information:*

Your name:

Your role:

Your email address:

Your telephone number:

Please give the name of your audiology service/s. If you provide services on behalf of another Trust/s please provide details of all the Trusts that you provide services for below.

If you provide the services for another Trust/s, do these include diagnostic hearing assessments and hearing aid provision for children in any of these locations?

2. *We have included below, the locations where previously you, or a CCG for your area, have told us that paediatric audiology services are provided.*

Please complete the table by:

Section 2: Waiting times

3. *On average, in the last quarter, (1 January – 31 March 2018) how many days did patients wait for the following?*

If you are not sure please estimate.

Section 3: Your policies

Please answer the questions in this section based on the situation as of 31 March 2018.

4. *What options are included in your current management pathway for temporary conductive hearing loss? Select all that apply:*

5. *Are there any groups of children that you don't currently provide hearing instruments for?*

6. Do you currently provide free batteries for children's hearing aids?

Please select one answer:

7. Do you currently provide a choice of coloured moulds to children at no extra charge?

8. What appointment times do you offer? Please select all that apply:

Section 4: Your caseload

9. How many deaf children were on your case load?

10. How many of the children on your caseload were referred to your service from the Newborn Hearing Screen?

Section 5: Quality improvement

Please put a cross next to the relevant answer/s.

11. Have you ever registered for (Improving Quality in Physiological Services) IQIPS?

12. Which of the below best describes your current status with regard to IQIPS?

13. If you are not registered with IQIPS, what is the main reason? Please select one answer:

14. If you are registered with IQIPS but have not progressed in the last year, what is the main reason? Please select one answer:

15. Has your service booked its onsite assessment with UKAS? Please select one answer:

16. What colour are you currently at on the UKAS traffic light system?

Section 6: Staffing and training

17. How many full time equivalent staff does your children's audiology service have at the following levels as on 31 March 2018 and how many did it have on 31 March 2017?

18. If there has been a reduction in the number or skill level of staff in the table above, what are the reasons for this?

19. Are you aware of any planned changes to staffing in 2018/19?

20. Thinking about permanent posts in the service as of 31 March 2018, what was the split of clinical and non-clinical sessions for audiology staff?

21. Are all staff able to access the CPD necessary for their roles? Select all that apply:

Section 7: Children's Hearing Services Working Groups

Please answer the questions in this section based on the situation as of 31 March 2018.

22. Does the Children's Hearing Services Working Group (CHSWG) in your area include at least one parent representative? Please select one answer:

23. Do you use the Children's Hearing Services Working Group Guidance (2010)?

Section 8: Technology

24. As of 31 March 2018 which organisation provides the following technology:

25. As of 31 March 2018 do you balance or pair streamers purchased by:

26. Are there any plans to stop the provision of hearing equipment or accessories for hearing equipment in 2018/19? Please select one answer:

Section 9: Patient engagement

27. How do you prepare young people for transition to adult services?

28. *What was your service's most recent score in the family and friends test?*

29. *What was your average 'Did Not Attend (DNA)' for the 2017/18 financial year in percent?*

Section 10: Funding and commissioning

30. *What was the annual budget for your paediatric hearing aid service for the 2017/18 financial year, from the organisations below?*

31. *How is your funding provided? Please select all that apply.*

32. *If you selected tariff per child, how much money do you receive for each service below?*

33. *If you run a joint paediatric and adult service, are your budgets shared?*

34. *Was your audiology service for deaf children commissioned differently in the 2017/18 financial year when compared to the 2016/17 financial year?*

35. *Is your audiology service being commissioned differently or reviewed in 2018/19?*

Section 12: Anything else

36. *Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your audiology service and any future plans?*

Trust response:

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust do not provide a paediatric audiology service. Our patients are only 16 years and above. Please contact <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/service/childrens-hearing-service/> for further information.