

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Date received	18/05/2022	Subject	Adult ADHD services		
Passed to	Mental Health	Date passed	18/05/2022	Respond by	08/06/2022
Category	Private	FOI number	2022-176		

Question/s to be answered

1. Does NHS Shetland currently offer assessments to diagnose Adult ADHD?

Yes, but only for individuals whose day-to-day functioning is chronically affected. We do not have capacity to offer assessments to all individuals who wish to be assessed.

a. If yes, please confirm:

- i. the written referral process where a patient of residing within NHS Shetland boundaries wishes to be assessed for Adult ADHD under NHS Shetland:

The referral process is the same for all referrals into the adult MH Team – as a secondary service all referrals come via Primary Care and/or Hospital.

The criteria is currently under review and will be communicated to all referrers.

- ii. the assessment process that a patient residing within NHS Shetland boundaries should expect to subject to, when they request to be assessed for Adult ADHD under NHS Shetland:

As mentioned above, if the individual meets the current criteria, childhood information will be requested. If there are no childhood issues with possible ADHD, the assessment process will not proceed any further. If the information states there are indications of ADHD from childhood the assessment will proceed with either a virtual or face-to-face contact.

- iii. if such assessments/diagnosis will be carried out by or made by a NHS Shetland psychiatrist or will this be referred/outsourced to a private psychiatrist i.e. a psychiatrist who is not carrying out the assessment/diagnosis whilst working directly for NHS Shetland?

Currently carried out by an NHS Shetland Psychiatrist and not outsourced to any private psychiatrist.

- iv. the current anticipated timelines that a patient residing within NHS Shetland boundaries should expect when seeking an Adult ADHD assessment under NHS Shetland?

Difficult to give an exact timescale as it depends on the other priorities within the service. Routine referrals for Psychiatry (ADHD assessments are undertaken by Psychiatrists) take between 2-3 weeks but urgent cases may push this timeframe on.

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2. Does NHS Shetland currently employ psychiatrists who are direct employees of NHS Shetland as a clinical psychiatrist and who actively carry out assessments for Adult ADHD within this role and not as a outsourced clinician undertaken this work as a third party.

NHS Shetland employs 3 Consultant Psychiatrists. 2 of which are able to undertake appropriate assessments. We do not employ any clinical Psychiatrists. We do not employ Consultant Psychiatrists who are specialists in ADHD; they are general-trained Psychiatrists.

- a. If so, how many?

See above

3. Does NHS Shetland have a written policy whereby they state they will not accept an Adult ADHD diagnosis from a psychiatrist who is not within NHS Shetland i.e. a diagnosis made under private health care?

No

- a. If yes: please provide a full copy this policy and refer to the specific section pertaining to this question.

N/A

4. Does NHS Shetland have a written policy prohibiting GP practices that operate within NHS Shetland from prescribing medication to patients who have receiving an Adult ADHD diagnosis via a private Psychiatrist assessment?

No

- a. If yes: please provide a full copy this policy and refer to the specific section pertaining to this question.

N/A