

Ref. No: 1571
Date: 24/02/25
Subject: Paediatricians Accepted for Private ADHD and ASD
Diagnoses

REQUEST

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request the following information from the Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust (formerly St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust), which I believe oversees paediatric services in the Merseyside and Cheshire region, including St Helens:

- 1. A list of paediatricians whose private diagnoses of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in children are accepted by the NHS under your Trust's jurisdiction. This should include the names of the paediatricians, their affiliated private practices (if applicable), and any specific criteria or conditions under which their diagnoses are recognised by the Trust for onward NHS care (e.g., medication, shared care agreements, or post-diagnostic support).**

Developmental Paediatrics do not have a list of paediatricians for which they accept private diagnosis of ADHD as they do not accept private diagnoses of ADHD as per agreement with their commissioners and in line with the policy of the local tertiary centre.

- 2. Confirmation of whether the paediatric services at St Helens, as part of your Trust, have access to this list of paediatricians. If they do not, please indicate which department, team, or external body maintains and provides access to this list for St Helens paediatric services.**

Developmental Paediatrics do not hold a list of any paediatricians who undertake private assessments of ADHD/ASD.

I am seeking this information to understand the Trust's process for integrating private ADHD and ASD diagnoses into NHS care pathways, particularly for children in the St Helens area.

If the requested list does not exist in the exact form specified, I would appreciate any relevant documentation or policies that outline how the Trust validates or accepts private diagnoses from paediatricians for these conditions.