

Data Provision Notice

Neurodevelopmental Service Assessments (ASD & ADHD) for Under 18s

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Data Collection Sponsor:	Dr Sally Rees - Head of Evaluation and the Neurodivergence Policy Team, Welsh Government
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DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

Version History

Version	Date	Summary of Changes
0.1	02/01/2026	DPN created.
0.2	27/01/2026	DPN updated following Editorial Group feedback.
0.3	16/03/2026	DPN updated following WIDG. Email submission details and query contacts have been amended.
1.0	27/03/2026	Finalised following WISB approval. Amended DQ review period to 6 months. Updated form added.

Reviewers

This document must be reviewed by the following people/groups:

Reviewer Name	Title/Responsibility	Date	Version
Susan Wynne	Quality & Performance Improvement Manager, NHS Wales Performance and Improvement	15/01/2026	0.1
Data Quality	Digital Health and Care Wales	15/01/2026	0.1
Editorial Group	Digital Health and Care Wales	16/01/2026	0.1
Dave Semmens	Assistant Director - Mental Health & LD, NHS Wales Performance and Improvement	28/01/2026	0.2

Approved by

This document must be approved by the following groups:

Name	Date	Version
Welsh Information Development Group (WIDG)	05/02/2026	0.2
Welsh Information Standards Board (WISB)	19/03/2026	0.3

BUSINESS JUSTIFICATION

PURPOSE OF COLLECTION

This notice sets out the requirements for collecting and reporting data for Neurodevelopmental Assessment Services (ASD and ADHD) for children and young people under 18 years. It replaces the original DSCN 2017/08 approach by expanding the data needed to understand referral-to-assessment pathways for ASD and ADHD.

The purpose of the revised collection addresses longstanding issues with data quality, reducing variation by clarifying reporting definitions, and providing additional insight into service activity to support quality assurance improvement and planning. Developed collaboratively by NHS Wales Performance and Improvement (P&I), Welsh Government (WG), Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW) and Health Boards (HBs), the updated data collection provides improved visibility of triage times, long waits (including >52 weeks), and post-diagnosis outcomes and interventions.

Data collected is currently used for Welsh Government and NHS management purposes. Due to ongoing data quality issues, it is not published at present. In the short term, data publication will remain restricted. Further discussions will be required to determine whether all or part of the data can be published once the framework is established and data reliability is assured.

The collection remains at an aggregated level due to current digital system constraints.

BENEFITS OF COLLECTION

The revised collection will enhance data quality, enabling WG to report with greater confidence. It will also provide improved data to support transformation planning through the Performance and Improvement / Neurodevelopment Improvement Programme (NDIP) workstreams. Additionally, the framework will strengthen monitoring and oversight of service and national performance, supporting more informed decision-making and accountability across neurodevelopmental services.

PERSONS CONSULTED

An Impact Assessment was undertaken with stakeholders in scope of this collection. This included:

- Heads of Information within the HBs in Wales
- Neurodevelopmental Service Leads within the HBs in Wales

REQUIREMENTS

SCOPE OF COLLECTION

This collection captures aggregate data for Children and Young People Neurodevelopmental Services that are either delivered directly or commissioned by HBs across Wales.

The scope includes:

- Children and young people up to their 18th birthday.
- Neurodevelopmental conditions, specifically Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

FORM AND MANNER OF COLLECTION

The following HBs offer Neurodevelopmental services and are required to submit this data collection:

- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board (UHB)
- Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (UHB)
- Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB)
- Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (UHB)
- Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB)
- Powys Teaching Health Board (THB)
- Swansea Bay University Health Board (UHB)

Data will be submitted to NHS Wales Performance and Improvement (P&I), via an Excel spreadsheet. It must be submitted via email to

NHSPI_Data.Analytics@wales.nhs.uk.

Any queries can also be directed to NHSPI_Data.Analytics@wales.nhs.uk.

Details of the data items collected, and their definitions can be found in the form provided in the [Form Specification](#) section.

PERIOD OF COLLECTION

Implementation of the submission will be carried out in three phases. Phase 1 will commence on 1st April 2026. Additional data collection domains for Phase 2 will be introduced on 1st September 2026.

For information, the progress and readiness for Phase 3 will be reviewed in October 2026, with a view to implementing the current or revised set of metrics on 1st April 2027.

The submission date will be the last working day of the month. The date of the first data submission will be 29th May 2026. The form issued by the information requester will contain a list of submission dates for the year.

The frequency of the data submission is monthly.

The data collection will continue until the scheduled review date 1st September 2026.

DATA QUALITY

To support users and improve the quality of submitted data, the following measures are in place:

1. Form

The data collection form includes clear definitions and guidance wherever possible to support consistent interpretation and accurate data entry. In the longer term, the introduction of a patient or record level dataset, developed through ongoing reviews, will further enhance data quality.

2. Reviews

The Data Quality team will conduct regular reviews of DPNs and produce SBAR (Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendation) reports. These reviews will assess whether Health Boards are able to collect patient or record level data. Understanding how close each Health Board is to achieving this will support the transition to a more detailed and reliable patient or record level dataset.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The main roles and responsibilities within this process are as follows.

Sponsor:

- Overseeing the collection
- Actively participating in the review process
- Ensuring that any issues are escalated to DHCW in a timely manner and alerting DHCW if a review is required ahead of the scheduled review noted in the DPN.

Data Submitters:

- Providing data as required in a timely manner
- Actively participating in the review process by providing input as required.

DHCW Data Standards team:

- Managing the development of the data collection engaging with relevant stakeholders and supporting the Sponsor.

DHCW Data Quality team:

- Completing Data Provision Notice (DPN) reviews in a timely manner.
- Assist with the development of the data collection proposal, providing an additional quality perspective.

FORM SPECIFICATION

The form is available to access and download via the [Data Standards website / Data Provision Notices - Digital Health and Care Wales](#).