29 January 2019

Re: Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your email, dated 25 January 2019, making a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for access to information which may be held by NHS Greater Preston Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Please find detailed below NHS Greater Preston CCG’s response to your request, which is formatted as follows:-

1. Details of NHS Greater Preston CCG’s decision in regard to the information requested.
2. A schedule of all the records covered by your request.
3. A statement concerning copyright and re-use of public sector information.
4. Details of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.

This letter addresses each of these parts in turn:-

1. Decision

   I can confirm that NHS Greater Preston CCG holds the information requested.

2. Schedule of records/FOI response

   Request: I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act about your Clinical Commissioning Group’s plans for expenditure on services for disabled children and their families from 2019-2020. Could you please let me know whether the CCG plans to:

   a) Increase expenditure in real terms  
   b) Maintain current levels of expenditure in real terms  
   c) Maintain current levels of expenditure in cash terms  
   d) Make cash reductions to current levels of expenditure

   Respond: The CCG does not commission any standalone services for children with physical disabilities, and they would normally access generic paediatric services. We do commission a paediatric learning disability service and are heavily involved in the ‘special educational needs and disability’ agenda.
The CCG expects to maintain current levels of spending for the paediatric learning disability service at current levels, and in real terms.

Request: Could you also please let me know whether these plans have been finalised; or are currently still proposals (and if the latter, whether they are subject to public consultation)?

Finally, could you please send me copies of (or links to) any Board or Committee papers with respect to plans for health care for disabled children and their families; and details of any public consultations on such plans.

Response: There are no specific changes expected in relation to expenditure and, therefore, there are no plans to share.

Details of any public engagement for CCG services can be seen on the website at: https://www.greaterprestonccg.nhs.uk/latest-news.

Additionally, the CCG’s operational plans can be found on the website at: https://www.greaterprestonccg.nhs.uk/plans-publications-and-policies. It should be noted, however, that plans for 2019 onwards have not yet been finalised.

Governing Body, Delegated Commissioning Committee and the Our Health Our Care Joint Committee papers can be found on the website at: https://www.greaterprestonccg.nhs.uk/about-the-ccg.

3. Copy and reuse of public sector information provided in FOI response

Most of the information provided by NHS Greater Preston CCG in response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 requests will be subject to copyright protection. In the majority of cases the information will be owned by NHS Greater Preston CCG. The copyright for other information may be owned by another person or organisation, as indicated in the information itself: in this case you must apply to the copyright owner to obtain their permission.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. It may also be used for the purposes of news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example, by publishing the information or issuing copies to the public will require the permission of the copyright owner.

4. Right of appeal to FOI response

If you are dissatisfied with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you are entitled to complain in the following way:
Initially you should complain in writing to the freedom of information officer, either by email on gpccg.foi@nhs.net or post to Chorley House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TT, specifying why you feel you have been wrongly denied access to the information requested. The freedom of information officer will ensure your complaint is investigated under NHS Greater Preston CCG’s internal processes and provide you with a written response within 20 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Greater Preston CCG.

Yours sincerely

Helen Curtis
FOI Lead
Head of Quality and Performance