Dear Rebecca

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

Thank you for your email, dated 27 February 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 part of the information requested.

2. Schedule of records/FOI response

Request: Please provide me with the following information in relation to the enhanced/intensive community support service for Adults with a learning disability and/or autism available to patients in your geography.

• When did the above service become operational?
• The number of patients within your geography who have been referred to the service since it became operational?
• Number of patients currently on the waiting list to access the above service?
• Current waiting time for patients to access the above service?
Response: The CCG is not responsible for commissioning this service. We would suggest that you redirect your request to Lancashire County Council at: freedomofinformation@lancashire.gov.uk.

Request: Please provide me with the following information in relation to the enhanced/intensive community support service for Children with a learning disability and/or autism available to patients in your geography.

• When did the above service become operational?
• The number of patients within your geography who have been referred to the service since it became operational?
• Number of patients currently on the waiting list to access the above service?
• Current waiting time for patients to access the above service?

Response: The CCG is not responsible for commissioning this service. We would suggest that you redirect your request to Lancashire County Council at: freedomofinformation@lancashire.gov.uk.

Request: Please provide me with the following information in relation to adults and children with learning disability/autism from your geographic area who are in mental health or learning disability/autism inpatient units:

• Average length of stay for children with a learning disability and/or autism in inpatient units
• Average length of stay for adults with a learning disability and/or autism in inpatient units

Response: The average length of stay for adults in mental health or learning disability/autism inpatient units is 414.8 days. (Please note that this information is taken using discharge information from 1 April 2016 to 4 March 2019.)

The CCG does not commission mental health inpatient placements for children. We would suggest that you redirect your request to NHS England which commissions these services. You can contact NHS England by email at: england.contactus@nhs.net (writing Freedom of Information request in the subject bar).

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