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

Thank you for your email, dated 7 March 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 state the full name of your Trust

   **Response:** NHS Greater Preston CCG.

   **Request:** Which company(s) holds the contract to supply your current patient transport services?

   **Response:** North West Ambulance Service (NWAS).

   **Request:** Please state if this service was procured through a framework agreement with other NHS Trusts (if so please provide the names of the other NHS Trusts). If yes, please also state which Trust holds the contract.
Response: NHS Greater Preston CCG is an associate commissioner to the Patient Transport Service. NHS Blackpool CCG is the lead commissioner. Further details of the contract procurement should be requested from the lead commissioner at: "mlcsu.foiteam@nhs.net. Please write “Freedom of Information for ‘NHS Blackpool CCG’ in the subject bar”.

Request: Please confirm which hospitals are covered under your patient transport service

Response: All NHS commissioned community and secondary care services. Primary care services are not included.

Request: Please state the contract start date and end date of your current transport services.

Response: The start date was 1st July 2016 and the end date is 30th June 2021.

Request: What is the expected total value of the contract?

Response: We do not hold this information. For an up to date contract value please contact the lead commissioner as detailed above*.

Request: What is your annual budget for patient transport services?

Response: The budget for 2018/19 is £1,474,189.00.

Request: Are there provisions for contract extensions (including how many years and the extension terms). If yes, please state if the contract extension been awarded

Request: No.

Request: Please state the names of the organisations who bid for the contract

Response: We do not hold this information. Please contact the lead commissioner as above*.

Request: How many patients are transported annually by your patient transport providers, and how many journeys are undertaken?

Response: We do not hold this level of information. We would suggest that you redirect your enquiry to the **provider (N WAS) at: FOI.enquiries@nwas.nhs.uk.

Request: What would the procurement model be for future contracts? E.g. will the contract be procured jointly with another Trust?

Response: The CCG does not hold this information at this time. You may wish to contact the *lead commissioner for this information.
Request: What are the performance standards the current service provider(s) operate under? (e.g. Discharge - 90% of patients to be collected in 4 hours of ready time. Categories for performance usually being Discharge from inpatient, Travel Time, Arrival time & Departure time)

Response: Please see the attached document, which contains details of the quality requirements for the service.

Request: What is the current provider’s performance against these standards in the last 12 months? (e.g. Discharge – 70% of have patients have been collected in 4 hours of ready time)

Response: We do not hold this information. You may wish to request this from either the *lead commissioner or the **provider, as detailed previously.

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