29 March 2019

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

Thank you for your email, dated 21 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 the information requested.

2. Schedule of records/FOI response

Request: Is your Wheelchair service procured as a separate service, or is it combined with other services such as Community Equipment, Prosthetics etc. If so, which services is it combined with?

Response: The wheelchair service provided by Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is commissioned as part of the Specialist Mobility Rehabilitation Service. Details of this can be found at: [https://www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/smrc](https://www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/smrc).

The service provided by Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust is procured as a separate wheelchair service.

Request: Is your wheelchair service procured as an integrated wheelchair service (i.e. Assessments and approved repair in one contract) or separately as different contracts?
Response: Yes the service is contracted as an integrated service, however, the provider may then choose to subcontract parts of its service.

Request: Is your provider / providers an NHS organisation or a contracted out non NHS organisation?

Response: The provider is an NHS provider.

Request: What is the name of your current Wheelchair Services provider – or if Approved Repair and Assessments are provided separately, what are the names of the providers for each service?

Response: Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (LTH) and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust (SOH).

Request: Is your wheelchair service exclusive to your CCG?

Response: No.

Request: If your service is combined with another CCG please provide a list of the CCGs that share this wheelchair service and confirm who is the lead CCG?

Response: NHS Greater Preston CCG is the lead commissioner of the service at LTH. This service is shared by: Blackburn with Darwen CCG, Morecambe Bay CCG, Blackpool CCG, Fylde and Wyre CCG.

The service at SOH is shared with NHS West Lancs CCG and NHS Chorley and South Ribble CCG.

Request: When was each part of your wheelchair service (Assessment, Approved Repair, or integrated) last tendered?

Response: The CCG has not tendered these contracts. They are historical contracts that were inherited as part of a block contract with the respective trusts.

Request: When does the current contract expire? Please provide details of any potential contract extensions?

Response: *There are currently no plans to terminate this service, however, this is constantly under review as part of the CCG’s ongoing reviews of services aiming to drive out efficiencies.

Request: Please provide the date this Wheelchair service will be next tendered?

Response: *Please see above.
About your Wheelchair service

Request: What is the size of the population covered by your wheelchair service?

Response: This information can be found in the public domain at: https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/lancashire-insight/area-profiles/clinical-commissioning-groups/.

Request: How many registered users are served by the Wheelchair Service?

Response: This information can be found in the public domain at: https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/?filter-keyword=wheelchair&filter-category=&filter-publication=&filter-date-from=&filter-date-to=.

Request: What is the contract spend in the last financial year for the integrated Wheelchair service?

Response: This information can be found in the public domain at: https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/?filter-keyword=wheelchair&filter-category=&filter-publication=&filter-date-from=&filter-date-to=.

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