13 May 2019

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

Thank you for your email, dated 1 May 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:** How many attendances to your organisation were coded as NFA (no fixed address) per year in 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018?

   Do services in your organisation have (a) a documented pathway for supporting homeless patients; or (b) a housing officer (or similar); or (c) a supply of clean clothes to offer homeless people? If yes to (a), (b), or (c) please provide details.

   How many patient referrals to a local housing authority under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 has your organisation made since 1 October 2018?

   What is your organisation doing, or planning to do, to support homeless patients or to comply with the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017?
**Response:** The CCG commissions (buys) healthcare services to meet the needs of its local population, regardless of their residential status. As a commissioning organisation we do not have clinical contact with patients. We do, however, fund a housing officer, based at Lancashire County Council, part of whose role is to support multi-agency planning for patients being discharged from acute mental health services.

You may wish to contact Lancashire County Council for information relating to homelessness projects. They can be contacted by email at: freedomofinformation@lancashire.gov.uk.

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