Dear Alice

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

Thank you for your email, dated 22 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: The name and email address of the people within your CCG that hold the following job titles:
• Managing Director
• Operations Director/COO

Response: We do not have a managing director within the CCG. The Chief Officer is Mr Denis Gizzi. Contact by email at: tracey.sullivan1@nhs.net.

Request:
• Senior Commissioners & Commissioners
Response: The commissioning managers within the CCG are:
Liz Crossland
Steve Flynn
Janet Ince
Joanne Cooper
Emma Ince
Kate Burgess
Helen Rushton
Karen Swift

Email at: csrccg.enquiries@nhs.net.

The CCG wishes to exempt release of staff below band 8 of the agenda for change pay grading. The CCG’s approach to the release of employee’s personal details is guided by the Data Protection Act (1st Principle), Section 40 (2) exemption in the Freedom of Information Act and guidance from the Information Commissioner’s Office. We routinely publish the names and other information of individuals, who hold more senior posts, on our website. Typically this is at Management Board level or other senior post holders with a greater level of accountability or responsibility.

Request:
• Head of Planning
• Transformation Director

Response: The CCG’s Director of Transformation and Delivery, Ms Jayne Mellor, covers these roles. Jayne can be contacted by email at: tara.ponde@nhs.net.

Request:
• Head of Primary Care Services

Response: Donna Roberts. Contact by email at: tara.ponde@nhs.net.

Request:
• QIPP Lead

Response: Mr Matt Gaunt, Director of Finance and Procurement. Email at: michelle.stas@nhs.net.

Request:
• CCG Chairman

Response: Dr Sumantra Mukerji, CCG Chair. Contact by email at: sandra.lewis3@nhs.net.

Request: Does the CCG use Referral Management Centres (RMCs), and if so, please provide name(s) of RMCs?
Response: Yes, the CCG uses NHS Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Support Unit to provide a referral management service.

Request: What was the CCG’s annual spend on RMCs in 2018/19? (If not available, please provide figures for 2017/18.


Request: Does the CCG have any initiatives to reduce the amount of spend with RMCs in the next financial year?

Response: No.

Request: Who is the person responsible for this?

Response: Not applicable.

Request: Please confirm the percentage of GPs within the CCG that use the e-referral system (eRS)?

Response: 100% of practices are using the e-referral system.

Request: Who is responsible within the CCG for saving GP’s time?

Response: There is no specific person who has this responsibility.

Request: Who is responsible within the CCG for reducing hospital referral waiting times?

Response: This would be the responsibility of the hospital. The CCG’s Quality and Performance team does, however, monitor waiting times.

Request: Who is responsible within the CCG for reporting patient flow data?

Response: The CCG’s Quality and Performance team reports of patient flow data.

Request: Does the CCG use set local referral pathways for GPs?

Response: Yes.

Request: Who is responsible for recommending these local referral pathways to GPs?

Response: The Management Executive Team.

Request: Does the CCG have quality improvement targets for reducing the number of hospital referrals?
Response: No, however, the CCG has systems in place to help improve the quality of referrals received by the hospitals.

Request: Who is responsible for this?

Response: Jayne Mellor, Director of Transformation and Planning.

Request: Who is the STP lead for service improvement/transformation? Who is the STP lead for referral management services?

Response: It should be noted that STPs no longer exist and have been superseded by Integrated Care Systems. Details of the leadership team within the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care System can be found on their website at: https://www.healthierlsc.co.uk/about/leadership.

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