12 July 2019

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

Thank you for your email, dated 2 July 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:
   1) What infection control support do you provide to general practice - be it guidance, resources, auditing?

   2) Do you currently commission any provider to support general practice with infection control?
   2.i) If yes, please give provider name
   2.ii) If no, how do practices in your area ensure their compliance with infection control guidance and best practice?

   3) Have you ever commissioned a provider to support general practices in your area with infection control?
   If yes:
   3.i) Please name the provider
3.ii) When was this service commissioned?
3.iii) When did this service end or is it still running?
3.iv) What happened to the funding at the end of this service?

4) Does the CCG have any plans to commission any service in the future to support general practice with infection control requirements?

Response: In April 2013, a Memorandum of Understanding was established for Lancashire County Council (LCC) to provide Public Health functions and services to clinical commissioning groups across Lancashire. This includes Infection Prevention and Control (IPC). IPC training and environmental audits which follow the Infection Prevention Society standards are available to general practices on request or following referral from the CQC.

Annual IPC training is recommended to GPs who source their own providers for IPC training. During CCG scheduled annual Protected Educational Training Sessions for GPs and community nurses IPC training is delivered. In the last 12 months this has focused on national best practice guidance for the identification and management of sepsis, for example.

We do not recommend or commission other infection prevention and control providers.

Additionally, we can advise that the LCC IPC nurse works closely with the CCG’s quality team.

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