14 August 2019

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

Thank you for your email, dated 8 August 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: Has your CCG contracted out any stool antigen tests for helicobacter pylori testing as part of a block contract with a local hospital or hospitals from January 1, 2018 till December 31, 2018? If the answer is ‘yes’, could you provide me the number of stool antigen tests performed under the block contract during this period.

   If the CCG does not have a ‘block contract’ with a local hospital or hospitals or an external provider can you confirm this.

   In either case please can you send me the total stool antigen tests for helicobacter pylori testing performed within the CCG from January 1, 2018 till December 31, 2018

   Response: Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust are contracted to provide gastroenterology and diagnostic services which would include the testing for
helicobacter pylori. The methods used would be determined by the Trust. We do not have a block contract specifically for helicobacter pylori testing.

The CCG does not hold details of the number of tests performed and would recommend that you contact the Trust directly to request this data. You can contact the Trust by email at: freedom.ofinformation@lthtr.nhs.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

Helen Curtis
FOI Lead
Head of Quality and Performance