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16 January 2012

Our Ref: FOI.11.0164

Dear Mr. Lanham

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I am writing in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 received on 28 December 2011 by the three PCTs that comprise of the Kent and Medway NHS Cluster.

All answers relate to the following Primary Care Trusts; NHS West Kent, NHS Eastern & Coastal Kent and NHS Medway unless otherwise indicated. The information that you requested is listed below together with a response in each case:

Do you currently commission the below services:

- **An evidence based Pulmonary Rehabilitation programme?**

In NHS Kent and Medway, Eastern and Coastal Kent, West Kent and Medway commission an evidence based Pulmonary Rehabilitation programme.

- **A home oxygen assessment and review service?**

In NHS Kent and Medway, Medway and West Kent provide a home oxygen assessment and review service, and Eastern and Coastal Kent have a service for patients with certain conditions, but not all conditions.

- **An early discharge service for patients admitted to an acute trust with an exacerbation of COPD?**

In NHS Kent and Medway, Eastern and Coastal Kent, West Kent and Medway commission an early discharge service for patients admitted to an acute trust with an exacerbation of COPD.

- **A prevention of admission service for patients with an exacerbation of COPD?**

I can confirm that there is a prevention of admission service for patients with an exacerbation of COPD available in the Medway, West Kent and the Eastern and Coastal Kent area.

- **Community COPD clinics for the diagnosis and stable management of COPD?**

Clinics are available in the Medway area. In the Eastern and Coastal Kent area, community respiratory services provide clinics for stable management of COPD patients, however, there are no community COPD diagnosis clinics. In the West Kent area there are clinics available in some areas, but not all.

- **If you do not currently commission these services do you have plans to in the future?**

In the Eastern and Coastal Kent area, there are discussions regarding commissioning community COPD clinics for diagnosis and management of COPD, however, there are no formal plans or proposals in place.

- **If you currently commission the above services, when is the date for re-tender?**

There are currently no plans to put the NHS Kent and Medway contracts out for re-tender as they are in place until March 2013.

I hope that this has dealt with your questions but if you are not satisfied with the way your request has been dealt with, please feel free to contact me directly. If you remain unhappy, you may approach our Chief Executive in writing at:

Chief Executive
NHS West Kent
Wharf House
Medway Wharf Road
Tonbridge
Kent
TN9 1RE

Kent and Medway

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have the right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) to appeal against the decision by contacting:

The Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545745
E-mail: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Jamie Sheldrake
Senior Information Governance Manager