

Ref: FOI.20.KAM077

Private and Confidential

Emily Smith
Email: request-678596-a0ec3fa7@whatdotheyknow.com

FOI Department
NEL CSU
Kent House - 4th Floor
81 Station Road
Ashford
TN23 1PP

Sent via email/Post

Tuesday 18th August 2020

Email: NELCSU.foi@nhs.net
Website: www.kentandmedwayccg.nhs.uk

Dear Ms Smith

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 received on 20th July 2020 by NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The information you have requested is listed below together with the response:

I would like to ask a few questions and would be very grateful if you could answer them.

- 1. How many children/young adults aged 18 and under are currently identifying as transgender in the Kent and Medway area?**

I can confirm NHS Kent and Medway CCG does not hold this information. The CCG does not record data on how many children/young adults are currently identifying as transgender. May we suggest your redirect this part of your request to the NHS North East London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT), who should be able to help you; available on the following link: foi@nelft.nhs.uk

- 2. What proportion of children/young adults aged 18 and under in Kent and Medway area who identify as transgender also have a diagnosis of ASD or ADHD?**

I can confirm NHS Kent and Medway CCG does not hold this information. The CCG does not record data on how many children/young adults are currently identifying as transgender. May we suggest your redirect this part of your request to the NHS North East London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT), who should be able to help you; available on the following link: foi@nelft.nhs.uk

- 3. Does Kent and Medway provide guidance within the council, or to schools or other organisations, on supporting children/young adults who identify as transgender? Can a copy of any guidance be supplied?**

I can confirm NHS Kent and Medway CCG does hold this information. For Kent, Porchlight has been commissioned to deliver the Be You Project which is a LGBTQ support service for young people aged 8-25 in Kent (<https://thebeyouproject.co.uk/>). The project includes providing training and guidance for schools, if you would like a copy of this training please contact the service

direct (headoffice@porchlight.org.uk). Kent County Council may have their own guidance but this would need to be requested from them.

For Medway, Medway's Public Health Child Health Team offer training and guidance to schools through their PSHE and school award programme. This training covers best practice and safe delivery, including being inclusive and using correct LGBTQ terminology. The team sends out a monthly PSHE news which includes a 'news focus'. This is used for LGBTQ History month, sharing teaching resources, training opportunities and guidance. Through this we have shared the All Sorts – Trans Inclusion Schools Toolkit. Medway has also produced a Trans Top Tips Guide for parents and carers; this is part of a series of parent and carer guidance for relationships and sex education (RSE). If you would like a copy of this training please contact the service direct (childhealth@medway.gov.uk).

4. What support pathways for children/young adults who identify as transgender exist, either within Kent and Medway or in partnership with NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group?

For Kent, The Be You Project as mentioned above, provides a support pathway for LGBTQ young people, including transgender, via the online website, face to face groups and support, and activities in the community, right across Kent.

For Medway, the Metro Charity facilitates groups in Medway for 16-25 year olds who identify as LGBTQ (<https://metrocharity.org.uk/>). Choices offer a bespoke LGBTQ service for victims of domestic abuse – not directly mental health but definitely a significant issue. The Tavistock and Portman Trust are sometimes used for young people to go to for support with gender issues.

We hope that this has dealt with your request for information, however, should you remain dissatisfied, you have the right to request that we conduct an internal review of the way we have handled your request. If you would like us to conduct such a review, please contact us within two months of this letter:

Email NELCSU.foi@nhs.net or

FOI-Internal Review Request
NEL CSU
Kent House - 4th Floor
81 Station Road
Ashford
TN23 1PP

Your request for an internal review will then be processed in accordance with our Freedom of Information Policy.

If you are still dissatisfied following the internal review, you have the right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner provides full and detailed guidance on the Freedom of Information Act and on when and how to complain.

Please find below the link to their website page and their helpline number.

<https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/>

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Helpline number: 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response, which will protect your anonymity, will be posted on the CCGs website.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
NEL CSU

This Freedom of Information request has been processed by NEL CSU on behalf of

NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group,
Unit 4, Markerstudy Business Park,
Thanet Way, Whitstable,
Kent. CT5 3FD

NEL CSU is NEL Commissioning Support Unit and is hosted by NHS England. NEL CSU provides a number of administrative functions including managing Freedom of Information Requests.