

Ref: FOI/00207/CCCG
5th May 2021

Daniel Stonard
request-748977-62e0ad97@whatdotheyknow.com

Freedom of Information Requests
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Macclesfield District General Hospital
Victoria Road
Macclesfield
SK10 3BL

Website: www.cheshireccg.nhs.uk
Email: cheshireccg.foi@nhs.net

Dear Daniel Stonard,

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
Lloyd George Digitisation**

Thank you for your information request indicated in bold below, which has now been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 by NHS Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). I am able to provide you with the following information and responses.

Please note from 1st April 2020, NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG, NHS South Cheshire CCG, NHS Vale Royal CCG and NHS West Cheshire CCG merged to form NHS Cheshire CCG.

You asked:

1) Has the CCG deployed a cross-practice approach to the digitisation (scanning) of Lloyd George (LG) patient records?

- a) If so, who is the supplier the CCG has contracted with?**
- b) When was the contract awarded and for how long?**
- c) How many patient files are in scope for the digitisation project?**
- d) If not outsourced, is the digitisation managed internally by CCG/practice staff?**

Our response:

1a - d) NHS Cheshire CCG has contracted EMIS Health to digitise the Lloyd George patient records held by our member GP Practices. The contract with EMIS Health was originally agreed at the end of 2018 by the four former CCGs that now make up NHS Cheshire CCG and is now in the closure stage. The contract with EMIS Health was for the digitisation of all Lloyd George patient records held by our member GP Practices.

You asked:

2) If the CCG has not yet started to digitise Lloyd George records across its GP estate, does the CCG know roughly how many Lloyd George records exist in a physical form?

Our response:

2) As previously advised, NHS Cheshire CCG is now in the closure stage of the digitisation of all Lloyd George patient records held by our member GP Practices.

You asked:

3) Are these physical LG files stored within the respective practice?

4) Are any physical LG files stored with a third-party storage company, off-site?

a) if so, roughly how many (files or boxes is fine)?

b) What is the annual cost to the CCG for the storage of physical patient files within third party storage companies?

Our response:

3 - 4a - b) The physical Lloyd George patient records held by our member GP Practices are with a third party storage company. NHS Cheshire CCG does not hold information on how many files or boxes of Lloyd George patient records are held with a third party storage company as the contract for this was agreed by the member GP Practices themselves. As a result, there is no annual cost to NHS Cheshire CCG for the storage of physical patient files within third party storage companies*.

*You may wish to redirect your request for this information NHS Cheshire CCG's member GP Practices whose names and contact details are listed on our website at the following link: <https://www.cheshireccg.nhs.uk/about/gp-member-practices/>.

You asked:

5) Is there a uniformed Electronic Document Management system deployed across all practice surgeries?

a) if so, which EDM system has been deployed?

b) when was the contract awarded and how long for?

c) if not, which individual systems are currently being used across the estate?

Our response:

5a - c) There is no unified electronic document management system deployed across all NHS Cheshire CCG's member GP Practices. All Lloyd George patient records once scanned are held on the EMIS clinical system used by NHS Cheshire CCG member GP Practices except where member GP Practices may have made individual arrangements.

You asked:

6) Who within the CCG is responsible for the digitisation of Lloyd George records across the CCG estate, in-line with the NHS England timelines?

a) Please provide name, job title and email address

Our response:

6a) NHS Cheshire CCG does not have a designated member of staff responsible for the digitisation of Lloyd George patient records held by our member GP Practices.

You asked:

7) Please also provide the details for:

- a) Chief Financial Officer (or equivalent)**
- b) Chief Information Officer (or equivalent)**
- c) Chief Clinical Information Officer (or equivalent)**
- d) Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent)**

Our response:

7) Please find below the names of the NHS Cheshire CCG staff that closest match the roles listed in your request:

a - c) Lynda Risk, *Executive Director of Finance & Contracting/Senior Information Risk Owner.*

d) Claire Watson, *Accountable Officer.*

NHS Cheshire CCG does hold the information you have requested regarding the above staff members direct email addresses. However, the direct email addresses of staff members are considered by NHS Cheshire CCG to constitute 'personal information' under the Data Protection Act and, as a result, are exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You can however contact NHS Cheshire CCG with any enquiries for staff using the 'get in touch' page on our website via the following link:

<https://www.cheshireccg.nhs.uk/get-in-touch>.

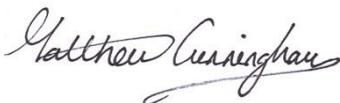
If you have any queries or concerns, wish to request a review of our response or are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to this Freedom of Information request, please do not hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Requests team; details provided at the top of this letter.

If you request a review of our response and are not content with the subsequent outcome, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the Freedom of Information review procedure provided by NHS Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely



Matthew Cunningham
Director of Governance and Corporate Development
NHS Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group

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