

Freedom of Information request FOI-1176–2019/20

Response to Jackie Kerby

On behalf of NHS Southampton City Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

Special School Nursing and health needs of Children Looked After

Part A

1. What was the allocated budget and actual spend for Special School Nursing within the CCG during the last financial year, 01/04/18 – 31/03/19?

The Special School Nursing service is funded as an integral part of a larger Community Children's Nursing (CCN) service. The contracting and funding arrangements through which this is done do not make it possible to separate out the specific costs that only relate to individual parts of the whole service. This means that CCG does not hold the individual service cost information to answer the question as to who much we spend specifically on Special School Nursing.

2. What was the cost per capita for Special School Nursing between 01/04/18 – 31/03/19?

The Special School Nursing service is funded as an integral part of a larger Community Children's Nursing (CCN) service. The contracting and funding arrangements through which this is done do not make it possible to separate out the specific costs that only relate to individual parts of the whole service. This means that CCG does not hold the individual service cost information to answer the question as to who much we spend specifically on Special School Nursing.

3. What was the allocated budget and actual spend for School Nursing in Special Schools within the CCG during the last financial year, 01/4/18 – 31/03/19?

School Nursing is a Public Health nursing function, which is commissioned by Local Authorities. As the CCG does not commission this service it does not hold a budget for it.

4. What was the cost per capita for School Nursing in Special Schools between 01/40/18 – 31/03/19?

As above, School Nursing is a Public Health nursing function commissioned by Local Authorities. The CCG does not commission this service and therefore does not hold a budget for it.

Part B

1. What health services are commissioned by the CCG in order to meet the health needs of CLA?

Children Looked After within Southampton have access to all of the health services which are commissioned for the general population. This includes Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Care within community and acute settings. Over and above the universal services such as Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Southampton Local Authority and Southampton Clinical Commissioning Group joint fund a number of integrated services which respond to the needs of children (including Children Looked After) who have: a learning or physical disability; or have complex emotional and mental health needs. Both of these services have a significant role in supporting the more specific needs which CLA may present with.

In addition to the above, the CCG, with some Local Authority funding, commission Solent NHS Trust to provide a Specialist CLA Health Team to deliver the statutory requirements for CLA health assessments. This specialist CLA Health Team is situated within the wider Community Paediatric Medical Service (CPMS) with staff holding roles across both services, enabling a more streamlined approach. For example in relation to child protection medicals and also children with special needs under the care of the community paediatrician. The CLA / CPMS Team also provide foster carer medicals as well as adoption medicals and counselling for adoptive parents.

2. What is the budget allocation for health of CLA service and actual spend? (01/04/18 – 31/03/19)?

The specific funding for CLA is incorporated within the block contract for Solent NHS Trust services and therefore cannot be disaggregated; as outlined in Part A (1). The Local Authority provides an additional budget of £41K per year to the contract in order to support the administrative function of the team.

3. Does the CCG fund all health service provision for CLA?

The CCG commissions the specialist CLA Health Team within Solent NHS Trust with a £41K contribution per year from the Local Authority. The CCG and Local Authority jointly fund others services which support the complex needs of CLA and any other children requiring specialist support, as detailed above.

4. How many health assessments and care leavers assessments for CLA were completed in the last financial year (01/04/18 – 31/03/19)?

There were 526 Review Health Assessments and 105 (Initial Health Assessments completed; equalling 631 in total.

There were 55 Care Leavers Assessments completed.

5. What is the allocated target time frame for completing health assessments of CLA?

Initial Health Assessments are due within 20 working days of a child becoming looked after, Review Health Assessments are due 6 monthly for 0-5year olds and annually for 5+ year olds, as per statutory guidance.

6. How many health assessments for CLA were completed within the target time frame during the last financial year?

There were 494 Health Assessments completed within the target time frame.

7. How are health needs for children placed for adoption or foster care met by the CCG?

The CCG commissions the specialist CLA Team / CPMS to undertake the Initial and Review Health Assessment process, with onward referrals to other services in order to address outstanding needs, if required. The commissioned service also includes the review of foster carer and adoption medicals with adoption counselling by the Paediatrician. The CLA Team also represent health at Fostering and Adoption Panels, as well as at Corporate Parenting meetings held quarterly; at which the CCG Designated Professionals are in attendance.

8. What health service provision is allocated to unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) and within what time frame?

UASC have the same access to universal services as any other child or young person in Southampton. For those UASC and CLA placed out of Southampton, arrangements are made to have their Health Assessments undertaken locally to them and any referrals, therefore, made to local services. The CCG fund these assessments and any referrals to services such as the Child and Adolescent Mental Health service.

The Looked After Children's Team within Solent NHS Trust provide the same health offer to UASC's as they do to other CLA within the same statutory timeframe. Every young person will have their individual needs assessed as part of their Health Assessment and appropriate referrals to other service made, if required, in order to meet any outstanding physical health / emotional health or other need.

9. Do you provide any other health service for CLA, children who have been adopted, adopters, foster carers or UASC?

The joint funded service, Building Resilience Service (BRS), will provide additional support to adoptive children and their adopters as required. This service is financed jointly by Local Authority and Health. CLA, UASC, adopted children will have the same access to universal services and if CLA, then they are proactively prioritised within that service. Adoption counselling and medical advice is also provided by the specialist CLA Team to both the Adoption and Fostering Panels. UASC will be fully screened for blood borne viruses and will be referred to Primary Care or Community Clinics in order to receive appropriate care.

10. Do you provide full BAAF medicals for adopters and foster carers as part of a Service level Agreement with Local Authorities? If so what is the average cost?

Yes, the BAAF medical form is embedded within practice in Southampton. Primary Care Practices, in the majority, charge the collaborative fee. The CLA Specialist Team / CPMS Team undertake both a review of the foster carer and adopter medicals and also contribute their review, in writing, to the appropriate panel.

In relation to collaborative fees, services provided under 'collaborative arrangements' should have their fees decided by Doctors at a local level dependent upon the individual needs of an area. Except for family planning,

11. Do you provide updated medicals for adopters and foster carers, if so what is the average cost and is this part of a Service Level Agreement with Local Authorities?

Yes the panels require review medicals as part of the routine household review. Again, the majority of Primary Care Practices will charge the existing collaborative fee for this service.

To confirm details around the household review- fosters carers will have an annual household review, as well as an updated medical assessment every three years. The household review, usually led by the Supervising Social Worker, identifies any changes of personnel within the household, changes to employment status, health concerns or any other new issues/changes

within the foster carer home. The foster carers will return to Southampton's foster panel (multi-agency) after the first year of being approved and then three yearly subsequently. Any changes (including to the foster carer's own health) are discussed. A decision is sought at each panel discussion as to whether the carers remain suitable for the approval to continue.

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Further information about the Freedom of Information Act can be sourced on the Information Commissioner's website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

If you have any queries about this e-mail, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Manager