I refer to your Freedom of Information request received on the 17th August 2021, and your follow up email (following our response issued on the 7th September) with regard to clarification of Questions 3 and 4 (received on 12th September 2021).

Your Follow Up Request

You asked:

Question 3 - Please provide the sensitivity and specificity of the lateral flow test supplied by Newcastle college when self-administered in a none sterile environment?

Question 4 - Please provide risk assessments and risk – benefit analysis documentation pertaining to the wearing of face coverings (masks) produced by Newcastle college / NCG as a requirement of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999?

Our Response

We confirm that the information requested under Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "Act") is held by NCG and is provided below:

Question 3

Please provide the sensitivity and specificity of the lateral flow test supplied by Newcastle college when self-administered in a none sterile environment?

Response:

NCG follows the guidance provided through the DfE and NHS, and as such the sensitivity and specificity is reflected in the guidance and publications where appropriate. Linked are the latest operational guidance for Further Education and the Guidance and supporting information resource portal which Newcastle College utilise:

<u>Further education COVID-19 operational guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

<u>Resources- Further Education & Secondary Schools - Google Drive</u>

Question 4

Please provide risk assessments and risk – benefit analysis documentation pertaining to the wearing of face coverings (masks) produced by Newcastle college / NCG as a requirement of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999?

Response:

Throughout all risk assessments during the pandemic, Newcastle College have followed the advice and guidance, together with the DFE / NHS analysis and resultant recommendations for the wearing of face coverings in further education settings. This has been aligned throughout the pandemic as instruction has been received in relation to criteria for use, location and activity. The latest risk assessment for Newcastle College is attached for reference.

Further education COVID-19 operational guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

If you have any further enquiries about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact.

Kind regards,

David Balme Executive Director and Secretary to the Board