

Our Ref: FOI 1509

22 June 2018

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Dear Mr Smith

Freedom of Information Request (FOI 1509)

Thank you for your request dated 22 May 2018 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Having reviewed and considered your request, I am able to confirm that under section 1(1) (a) of the Act, Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) holds the requested information, and (b), we are providing our response as follows.

Question 1 – Please could you provide the agendas and minutes for the drugs and therapeutic group for 2018?

Section 21 exemption – Information accessible by other means

The Somerset Prescribing and Medicines Management Forum (PAMM) and Somerset Prescribing Forum (SPF) both publish the minutes of meetings on the CCG website at the following [link](#).

Please find enclosed copies of available agendas for both PAMM and SPF for 2018.

Section 40 exemption – Personal information

When considering requests under the Freedom of Information Act for information which identifies members of staff, factors such as seniority of individuals and whether roles are public facing should be considered in reaching a decision on disclosure. On this basis, the agendas for PAMM and SPF have a circulation section which includes people the agenda is sent to for information only. This includes people who do not attend the meetings and who would have an expectation of their identity not being disclosed (for example, people who work in administrative support roles).

One of the conditions listed in section 40 (3) (a) (i), is where the disclosure of the information would contravene any of the principles of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2016 and Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA). In order to rely on the exemption provided by section 40, the information being requested must constitute the personal data as defined by GDPR/DPA which defines personal data as:

‘...any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (‘data subject’); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online

identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person'

After due consideration given to this matter, we decline to disclose the names of all named individuals listed in the 'for information' section of the agendas provided, where they do not attend the meeting and are not operating a senior level within the CCG, as to do so would breach specific GDPR/DPA principles. We have applied the exemption under sections 40 (2) and 40 (3) (a) (i) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. If you would like further detail as to our analysis of the principles of the GDPR/DPA that would be contravened by disclosure, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Question 2 – Could you also confirm what rebate/discount schemes you have in place across primary care for medicines.

Please find enclosed a list of current rebate schemes.

Question 3 – Do you produce any newsletters for the Trust or for Primary Care around medicine prescribing? If so, can you please provide these for 2018?

Please find enclosed copies of relevant newsletters produced by the CCG Medicines Management team to date for 2018.

Appeal

If you have any further queries, require any clarification, or have any concerns regarding the way in which your request has been handled and/or to request an internal review, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Signature withheld

Sandra Corry
Director of Quality, Safety and Engagement

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