

Corporate Administration

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Corporate HQ
J B Russell House
Gartnavel Royal Hospital
Campus
1055 Great Western Road
GLASGOW
G12 0XH



Telephone: 0141 201 4444

Mr Ewan McLean

SENT BY EMAIL TO:

[request-631590-
fd39aaf4@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-631590-fd39aaf4@whatdotheyknow.com)

Date	31 January 2020
Your Ref	
Our Ref	FOI 15662
Direct Line	0141 201 4460
Email	foi@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Contact	

Dear Mr McLean

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

Thank you for your request received on 6 January 2020 for the provision of the following information:-

Under FOISA, I seek all information recorded within the last three years that would detail:

- Decisions made about homeopathic intervention within the trust, for example whether any decision has been made about the CIC in Glasgow, or any decision to make homeopathic intervention available via GPs.*
- In particular, what clinical decision making process was behind this. As a hypothetical, we might see that the NICE guidelines were followed and that's why xyz course of action was taken.*
- (Any) public funding/expenditure wholly, primarily or substantially spent on homeopathic intervention.*
- To assist you in locating relevant information, I am aware that NHS England defunded such interventions a few years ago, and I am aware that options for the future of the Glasgow CIC was being discussed in the last few years. I'm looking to establish the current state and any planned changes to the provision of homeopathy by NHS Scotland (in this case NHSGGC).*

We are treating your request under our procedures for responding to requests for information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. The information that we are able to provide in response to your request is given below.

The Centre for Integrative Care (CIC) on the Gartnavel Hospitals site, offers people with long term conditions a wide range of opportunities to enhance their health and quality of life. Most patients referred to the Centre are experiencing chronic pain, chronic low energy, and/or chronic low mood or anxiety. However, any patient with a long term condition may benefit from the care

provided here. The NHS Centre for Integrative Care accepts referrals from all health care professionals in exactly the same way as all other hospitals and clinics. All patients are seen in an Outpatient Clinic by either a doctor or an advanced specialist nurse practitioner.

Interventions offered include Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy, Heartmath, Counselling, Art and Music Therapy, Physiotherapy, and Therapeutic Massage, and complementary therapies such as Acupuncture, Homoeopathy and Mistletoe Therapy. Relaxation, Stress Management, Yoga and Tai Chi may be included in the some of the group programmes offered by the CIC.

Further information on the CIC can be found on NHSGGC's website at the following link:

<https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/patients-and-visitors/main-hospital-sites/gartnavel-campus/nhs-centre-for-integrative-care/>

We can advise that the most recent redesign, which involved creation of the CIC Day Service and closure of remaining inpatient beds, happened between January and April 2017. The Board paper relevant to this change can be found at:

https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/media/240231/nhsggc_board_paper_16-75.pdf

There have been no other service changes since then and none are currently planned. There are no specific NICE guidelines for CIC/homeopathy on which decisions in respect of service changes have been based.

We would ask you to note that homoeopathic medicines are not provided by NHSGGC. While this was previously the case, the homoeopathic pharmacy closed at the end of 2011 and outpatient prescribing and dispensing stopped at the same time. Prescribing for homoeopathic medications continued for inpatients until the closure of the inpatient beds in April 2017. Where a recommendation is made for homoeopathic treatment, the patient can either purchase this privately or discuss further with their GP.

Financial information relating to the CIC is shown below:

Glasgow Homoeopathic Hospital Running Costs

	2016/17		2017/18		2018/19	
Category	£'000	Average WTE	£'000	Average WTE	£'000	Average WTE
<u>Pay</u>						
Medical	443	4.57	421	4.50	429	4.39
Nursing	511	11.90	247	5.29	205	4.37
Allied Health Professionals	0	N/A	8	0.23	11	0.33
Admin & Clerical	124	5.22	118	4.90	117	4.64
	1,077	21.69	794	14.92	763	13.73
<u>Non-pay</u>						
Direct supplies	127	N/A	107	N/A	102	N/A
Capital charges/depreciation (estimate)	96	N/A	96	N/A	96	N/A
	223	N/A	203	N/A	198	N/A
Other clinical services / overheads (estimate)	372	N/A	285	N/A	274	N/A
Total	£ 1,672	21.69	£ 1,283	14.92	£ 1,235	13.73
'Direct' costs	£ 1,204		£ 902		£ 865	

Information on the number of patients seen at the CIC is shown in the table below.

Patient's Health Board	Outpatients (new)			Inpatients Elective		
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Ayrshire & Arran	39	41	43	25	**	**
Fife	0	<5	<5	<5	**	**
Greater Glasgow & Clyde	716	770	797	245	**	**
Highland	10	15	18	6	**	**
Lanarkshire	23	30	7	23	**	**
Grampian	<5	0	<5	0	**	**
Lothian	<5	<5	8	<5	**	**
Tayside	0	0	0	<5	**	**
Forth Valley	27	19	21	15	**	**
Western Isles	0	0	0	0	**	**
Dumfries & Galloway	0	<5	6	<5	**	**
Borders	<5	0	0	<5	**	**
Orkney	0	0	0	0	**	**
Shetland	0	0	0	0	**	**
Others	<5	0	0	0	**	**
TOTAL	821	881	903	323	**	**

I hope that this is helpful. If you are not satisfied with our response to your request, you have a right to request a review of this decision within 40 working days of receiving this response. The attached note describes our review procedure. Your request for review must be in permanent form and should state:

- That you are asking for a review of this decision and
- Why you are unhappy with the response you have received.

If you wish us to carry out a review, please complete the form enclosed and return it to the Head of Corporate Governance and Administration, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Corporate HQ, JB Russell House, Gartnavel Royal Hospital, 1055 Great Western Road, Glasgow G12 0XH or by email to foi@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

If following a review you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you have the right to ask for advice, assistance or to make a formal appeal in writing to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months of receiving the outcome of a review. The Commissioner can be contacted at: Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS or at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

If following appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner you still remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you have a right of appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law against the decision of the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Should you require any clarification about this letter or the right to request a review please contact me at the details at the top of the first page of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Alison Flynn

Alison Flynn
Freedom of Information Manager

Standard Enclosures:

Request For Review Form

Procedure for review of decision notified