

Ref: FOI/00938/CC
14th August 2018

Martin Butcher
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Dear Martin Butcher,

Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
Services for Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

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

You asked:

- 1) Please provide copies of any policies your CCG has on the commissioning of services for those with an FASD.**

Our response:

1) Please be advised that NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not commission a service specifically for Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). Care for patients with FASD are incorporated into the overall Maternity and Paediatric services commissioned from East Cheshire NHS Trust (ECT). You may wish to redirect your request for information relating to the care for patients with FASD to ECT who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests at the following email address: ecn-tr.foirequests@nhs.net

You asked:

2) What services has your CCG commissioned to meet the 'reasonable requirements', as is your duty under Section 3 NHS Act 2006, of those in your area who have or may have Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders as a result of antenatal exposure to alcohol, and what is your CCG doing to secure improvement in the physical and mental health of persons with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of FASD (as is in your power under Section 3A NHS Act 2006)? Please release any information you hold concerning provision for:

a) prevention education following the Chief Medical Officers' guidelines that the safest course is not to drink while pregnant or attempting to become pregnant;

b) diagnosis for both children and adults;

c) post-diagnostic care in the years 2013- 2018 from professionals including, but not limited to, paediatricians, GPs, nurses, psychologists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, mental health services and other disability support services to provide specialised intervention services for patients on the FASD spectrum across their lifespan?

Our response:

2a – c) NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not commission any prevention education for FASD. Please be advised that prevention education is the responsibility of Public Health England who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests at the following email address: FOI@phe.gov.uk

NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not hold information on FASD diagnosis or post diagnostic care for the years 2013 to 2018. FASD diagnosis and post diagnostic care is undertaken by the healthcare professionals involved in a patients care. You may therefore wish to redirect your request to ECT as the provider of our commissioned Maternity and Paediatric services.

You asked:

3) Please release any information concerning how is your CCG exercising its duty (as specified under Section 14R NHS Act 2006) to securing “continuous improvement in the quality of services provided” to individuals with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders “for or in connection with the prevention, diagnosis or treatment” of FASD?

Our response:

3) NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not hold information specifically in relation to improving FASD services. NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does however continually work with its commissioned providers to improve the quality of care and services including the services which incorporate FASD diagnosis or treatment.

You asked:

4) What is the budget for commissioned services for FASD in the current financial year? What was the budget in financial years beginning in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017?

Our response:

4) NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not has a specific budget for FASD for the financial years 2013 to 2019.

You asked:

5) Please release any agreed plans for service expansion for future years.

Our response:

5) NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not hold information on agreed plans specifically for future FASD service expansion.

You asked:

6) Has your CCG conducted, commissioned or assisted the conduct of research into any matters relating to the causation, prevention, diagnosis or treatment of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, as is in your powers according to Section 5 NHS Act 2006 Schedule 1 (paragraph 13).

Our response:

6) NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG has not conducted, commissioned or assisted the conduct of research into the cause, prevention diagnosis or treatment of FASD.

You asked:

7) Does your CCG commission services from the National FASD Clinic? If so, what is the budget for this in the current financial year?

Our response:

7) NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not have a contract or a budget for commissioning services from the National FASD Clinic. However, should a patient require referral to the National FASD Clinic then commissioning of this would be considered on an individual basis.

You asked:

8) Please release any information concerning ways in which your CCG is fulfilling its duty (specified under Section 14Z, NHS Act 2006) to promote education and training related to FASD?

Our response:

8) NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not hold information specifically relating to the promotion of education and training related to FASD.

You asked:

9) Do you have a lead person in your CCG on FASD? Please provide the name and role of the person responsible.

Our response:

9) NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not have a designated lead for FASD. However, Ms Lynsey Ure, Clinical Quality Manager, is NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG's lead for overall Paediatric and Maternity services.

You asked:

10) Please release any information concerning the steps are you taking or have you taken (according to your duty under section 14Z2 of the NHS Act, 2006), to involve individuals with FASD or their caregivers in "planning commissioning arrangements; in the development and consideration of proposals for change; in decisions affecting the operation of commissioning arrangements where implementation would have an impact on the manner in which services are delivered or the range of services available."?

Our response:

10) As previously advised, NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not specifically commission a service specifically for Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does however ensure public consultations and patients and carer involvement in the development of services where changes are proposed in how they are delivered.

You asked:

11) How many inquiries/requests/letters have you received from medical practitioners or patients/families in your area related to FASD in the years 2013-2018?

Our response:

11) NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG does not hold any information relating to enquiries, requests or letters regarding FASD in our area during the years 2013 to 2018.

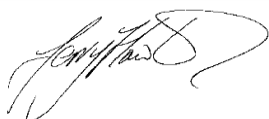
If you have any queries or concerns, wish to request a review of our response or are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to this Freedom of Information request, please do not hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Requests team; details provided at the top of this letter.

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 complaints procedure provided by NHS Eastern 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



Jerry Hawker
Chief Officer
NHS Eastern Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group

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