



NEL,
1 Lower Marsh,
London,
SE1 7NT

Email: NELCSU.foi@nhs.net

15 August 2018

Dear Mr Butcher,

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Reference: FOI.18.MERT078

Thank you for your request under the *Freedom of Information Act 2000* (the Act). This response is provided on behalf of NHS Merton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Your request along with the CCG's response is detailed below.

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

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?
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?
5. Please release any agreed plans for service expansion for future years.
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).
7. Does your CCG commission services from the National FASD Clinic? If so, what is the budget for this in the current financial year?
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?
9. Do you have a lead person in your CCG on FASD? Please provide the name and role of the person responsible.
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.”?

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?

I can confirm that NHS Merton CCG does not hold this information. This information is held by the Public Health Team of the London Borough of Merton. Please contact them direct to obtain this information. Their contact details are given below.

London Borough of Merton

<https://www2.merton.gov.uk/council/dp-foi/foi.htm>

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NELCSU.foi@nhs.net

Postal address

NEL,
1 Lower Marsh,
London,
SE1 7NT

Website address

www.nelcsu.nhs.uk

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We will record your contact and request details in order to monitor and improve the service we provide and in order to discharge our statutory obligations under the Act. This information will be handled in accordance with the NHS Confidentiality Code of Practice and the *Data Protection Act 2018*.

Using personal data we provide

You are required not to use personal data which is provided to you for electronic marketing (telesales, fax, e-mail) to our staff and comply with the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003. Provision of such personal data in response to a Freedom of Information or Environmental Information request does not constitute consent from the individual concerned.

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Review procedure

If you feel that we have not met the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you should contact the FOI Team at: NELCSU.foi@nhs.net

If you remain dissatisfied, you can ask us to review our decision by making a written request for an internal review. In order to assist with the review, you should include your address, a description of the original request and the reasons why you are dissatisfied. Please send this to:

Email

NELCSU.foi@nhs.net

Postal address

NEL CSU,
1 Lower Marsh,
London,
SE1 7NT

Website address

www.nelcsu.nhs.uk

The review will be handled by more senior staff who were not involved in the original decision. Although this will not apply to Section 36 claimed exemptions in accordance with Department of Health Directive, your request will still be reviewed. We aim to complete all internal reviews within 20 working days. If you then wish to appeal you should contact the Information Commissioner for an independent review at the following address:

Telephone

01625 545745

Postal address

The Information Commissioner,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

Website address

www.ico.gov.uk

Feedback

Your feedback is welcome to help us improve the service we provide. Please send comments or suggestions to our address.



Yours sincerely,
Dunstan Thomas
FOI Officer

