

Information Governance Department
First Floor, South Wing
St Thomas' Hospital
Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
Westminster Bridge Road
London SE1 7EH

Telephone: 020 7188 7525
Email: foi@gstt.nhs.uk

Monday 4th February, 2019

By email: request-500609-fa5df7ff@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Madam,

Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST: 71915

Please find below the response to your Freedom of Information request to Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust.

You may re-use this information (except for logos) under the terms of the Open Government Licence¹. If you would prefer to receive the information in an alternative electronic format, please let us know.

- 1) *Copies of any policies that the Trust has on the prevention of FASD, and on the diagnosis and post-diagnostic care pathway for patients with an FASD. Also your policy on the training of Trust personnel to manage patients with FASD.*
 - There are a number of guidance documents on our system. These policies have been attached to the response email.
 - There is annual training with local community paediatricians relating to FASD.
 - There are no formalised pathways, however there are discussions related to FASD to discuss pathways across Southwark and Lambeth
 - Currently the service follows British Medical Association guidelines (2016) across both Lambeth and Southwark
- 2) *Any information you hold on services your Trust provided for FASD for*
 - *prevention education following the 2016 Chief Medical Officers' guidelines that the safest course is not to drink while pregnant or attempting to become pregnant;*
 - The team liaises with schools to discuss management and support available locally including attending TAC (Team around the Child) meetings (both Southwark and Lambeth)
 - Parents/carers are signposted to available resources such as <http://www.nofas-uk.org/>
 - Discussions are held with children and social workers if required. Social workers are advised to follow "Dealing with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder – a guide for social workers"

- Advice is provided as part of work with looked after children (LAC), but do not usually see young people of reproductive age. In Southwark young people of reproductive age are seen in General paediatrics. Lifestyle and substance misuse including alcohol are discussed as part of the clinical consultation, in addition to the compulsory discussions as part of the LAC/CP process.
- Parents are routinely asked about drug and alcohol consumption and would address further as a welfare issue as well as a health impact issue should this arise.
- *diagnosis for both children and adults;*

The Trust does not hold this information.

- *post-diagnostic care in the financial years beginning 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.*
- The Trust does not provide post diagnostic care, other than as a holistic service approach to young people with developmental difficulties. There are not enough cases for a specialist clinic. Team expertise is shared across both sites for managing developmental difficulties and co-morbid health conditions in children with neurodevelopmental needs.

3) *Information on the number of Doctors in your Trust who currently provide diagnostic and/or post-diagnostic services for FASD? Please provide their names and posts. Whether your Trust employs specifically trained professionals, including but not limited to nurses, psychologists, occupational therapists and speech and language therapists, to provide specialised services for patients on the FASD spectrum? If so, in what specialties, and how many? Please provide their names and posts.*

- In Lambeth Dr Tomasz Swierzewski - Speciality Doctor in Community Paediatrics. Dr Swierzewski has a special interest in FASD and has been asked by other colleagues for his opinion/support whenever they see a child with possible FASD.
- Dr. Beatrice Cooper - Consultant Paediatrician has an established special interest. She is now post-retirement and so the interest and expertise is being transitioned to the current medical advisor Dr. Molinari and Dr. John- Legere.

4) *Information on training provided to personnel in your Trust on FASD, or provided by others and accessed by your personnel.*

- Dr Swierzewski has read widely on the subject and attended a conference on FASD and a lecture held as part of Paediatric Mental Health Association winter meeting in 2017.
- He gives a training session to the community paediatricians annually.
- The key clinicians in the Southwark LAC health team have all read widely on FASD and attended training sessions where this has been discussed. There is a system of peer review in place for clinical queries.
- Dr. John-Legere has met with Prof Turk, participated in clinical case discussion with him and been provided with appropriate resources.

5) *Information you hold on whether your Trust sends patients for FASD diagnosis to the National FASD Clinic in Surrey. Did your refer any patients to the National FASD Clinic in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017, and in 2018, and if so, how many in each year?*

- The Trust does not refer patients to the National FASD Clinic in Surrey.

6) *What was your budget for services for FASD in each financial year since that starting in 2013 and including the current financial year?*

- No budget specifically for FASD. The young people are seen as part of services for developmental delay/disorder.

7) *Please provide copies of any agreed plans you have to expand the budget or services in coming years.*

- N/A

If you are considering rejecting this request on the grounds of the costs of responding exceeding the statutory limits then please respond to as many of the numbered items as possible within the limit, in the order they have been presented.

Please let us know if you require more details or further clarification. You can find out more about the Trust and our publication scheme at our website².

If you are dissatisfied with our response, please use our FOI review process by contacting foi@gstt.nhs.uk or writing to:

Deputy Information Governance Manager (FOI Review)
Information Governance
1F South Wing
St Thomas' Hospital
Westminster Bridge Road
London SE1 7EH

Please be aware that reviews will not be conducted via public forum, and we will require your name and contact address in order to respond.

If you remain dissatisfied after a review, you have the right under s50 of the Act to apply to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Further details about this and the Act can be found on their website³.

Yours sincerely,



Marian Ridley
Director, Evelina London

¹ Either version 3 or, at your discretion, any later version – <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/>

² <http://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/about-us/publications/foi/freedom-of-information.aspx>

³ <http://www.ico.org.uk>