

Information Governance

Medical Directorate
NHS Grampian
Rosehill House
Foresterhill Site
Cornhill Road
Aberdeen
AB25 2ZG



BY EMAIL
Sandra Butcher
[request-500718-
28b825c0@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-500718-28b825c0@whatdotheyknow.com)

Date 10 May 2019
Our Ref FOI/2019/279
Enquiries to Information Governance Team
Extension 51319
Direct Line 01224 551319
Email nhsq.foi@nhs.net

Dear Ms Butcher

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

I refer to your e-mail of 20 April 2019, requesting:

- "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.*
- 2) Any information you hold on services your Trust provided for FASD for*
 - a. prevention education following the 2016 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 financial years beginning 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.*
- 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.*
- 4) Information on training provided to personnel in your Trust on FASD, or provided by others and accessed by your personnel.*
- 5) Information you hold on whether your Trust sends patients for FASD diagnosis to the National FASD Clinic in Surrey (<https://www.fasdclinic.com/>)? Did you 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?*

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

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

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."

I can now respond as follows:

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.

The Community Child Health department has been engaged in a Quality Improvement Process for the last two years to develop a pathway for FASD. We are engaged in the Scottish Government Training Event in June 2019 and are reviewing the SIGN guidelines in an approach to delivering this service. Please see attached a copy of the draft Pathway.

Any information you hold on services your Trust provided for FASD for

a. prevention education following the 2016 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 financial years beginning 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

NHS Grampian can advise that in January 2018 the "APPA"(alcohol pre-pregnancy and pregnancy advice) project which was funded by the Scottish Government commenced.

The aim of the project was to raise awareness of FASD and target early prevention.

Posters have been distributed and an information web page set up. Some secondary schools within Aberdeen City have been proactive and invited the project speaker into educate the parents of the future about the damaging effects alcohol has on the unborn baby and the lifelong consequences of this. There has been very good attendance by multi agency professionals at FASD roadshows held in June 2018 and March 2019. Dr Jonathon Sher (independent FASD consultant) was guest speaker at The Vulnerability in Maternity Services conference in November 2018.

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.

Dr Marianne Cochrane Consultant Paediatrician Lead for Child Protection and Adoption and Fostering.

All 17 Community Child Health Doctors and the Genetics Department contribute assessments for FASD.

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

There have been a number of training events both in NHSG and on a Multi-agency basis delivered by our Child Protection Training Team and external Lecturers. The most recent was a Roadshow on 29 March 2019.

NHS Grampian also has an action plan in progress to train/retrain maternity staff in Alcohol Brief Interventions.

All community midwives employed by NHS Grampian have been provided with the NOFAS booklet 'Alcohol and pregnancy, Information for midwives'.

Information you hold on whether your Trust sends patients for FASD diagnosis to the National FASD Clinic in Surrey (<https://www.fasdclinic.com/>)? Did you 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?

NHS Grampian is not aware of any patients being sent to the National FASD Clinic in Surrey.

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

AND,

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


In relation to all of the above please be advised that NHS Grampian does not have a budget specifically for services for FASD.

Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Grampian has dealt with your request, you have a right to request a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request, and you have a right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

A request for review must be made within 40 working days and should, in the first instance, be in writing to: Directorate of Corporate Communications, Foresterhill House, Foresterhill, Aberdeen, AB25 2ZB or by email to grampian@nhs.net

Requests for appeal can be made by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's online service at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal or should be made in writing to: Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS Telephone: 01334 464610, Fax: 01334 464611.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Reid', followed by a horizontal line.

Roohi Bains
Acting Information Governance Manager
NHS Grampian