

Direct Line: 0161 622 6612
Direct Fax: 0161 622 6512
e-mail: Stephen.sutcliffe@nhs.net

Ellen House
Waddington Street
Westwood
Oldham
OL9 6EE

27 April 2011

T: 0161 622 6500
W: www.oldham.nhs.uk

Oliver Mason
Request-67379-80966cb1@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Mason

Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your e-mail dated 4 April 2011 making a request under the *Freedom of Information Act 2000* for access to information, which may be held by this Primary Care Trust. Please find detailed below the PCT's response to your request, which is formatted as follows:

- 1 A schedule of all of the records covered by your request and details of the response from NHS Oldham.
3. A statement of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.
- 4 A statement concerning copyright and re-use of public sector information.

This letter addresses each of these three parts in turn.

- 1 Schedule of records requested and response from NHS Oldham**
Please see Appendix 1.

- 2 Right of appeal**

If you have any queries in relation to this letter, please contact Deborah Waterhouse on 0161-622-6577. Alternatively, should you wish to appeal against the PCT's response to your request, please see the advice given in the enclosed leaflet.

- 3 Copy and Re-use of Public Sector Information**
For your information, also attached to this letter is an important leaflet concerning copyright and re-use of public sector information.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Sutcliffe
Executive Director of Finance

Enclosure: Appendix 1

Riaz Ahmad OBE
Chair

Shauna Dixon MBE TD DL
Chief Executive

Hugh Sturgess
Clinical Executive Chair

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

What can I do if I am dissatisfied with the PCT's response to my request made under the Freedom of Information Act?

If you are dissatisfied with the PCT's response to your request made under the Freedom of Information Act you are entitled to complain in the following way:

Initially, you should complain in writing to the PCT's Chief Executive (contact details given below), specifying why you feel you have been wrongly denied access to the information requested.

The Chief Executive will ensure your complaint is investigated under the PCT's internal procedures and will provide you with a written reply to your complaint within 20 working days.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the PCT's response to your complaint, you have the right to ask the Information Commissioner to investigate your complaint further. The relevant contact details are given below:

Shauna Dixon
Chief Executive
Oldham PCT
Ellen House
Waddington Street
Oldham
OL9 6EE
Tel: 0161 622 6500

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 745



Most of the information that provided by Oldham Primary Care Trust in response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 requests will be subject to copyright protection. In most cases the copyright will be owned by Oldham Primary Care Trust. The copyright for other information may be owned by another person or organisation, as indicated in the information itself: in this case you must apply to the copyright owner to obtain their permission.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. It may also be used for the purposes of news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example, by publishing the information or issuing copies to the public will require the permission of the copyright owner.

For information appearing on our website - where the copyright is owned by Oldham Primary Care Trust - details of the conditions on re-use can be found at www.oldham.nhs.uk



Request Number:	082/2011
Date:	4.4.11
Category	Organisation
Request details	<p>1. Taxis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who currently provides the Trust's taxi service? b. What is the Trust's annual spend on all taxi services? c. Who is responsible for managing this service and what are their phone, email and postal contact details? d. How do you advertise this service for competitive tender, when did this last take place and when will it next be undertaken? <p>2. PTS (Patient Transport Services)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who currently provides the Trust's PTS service? b. What is the Trust's annual spend on PTS? c. Who is responsible for managing this service and what are their phone, email and postal contact details? d. How do you advertise this service for competitive tender, when did this last take place and when will it next be undertaken?
Response details	<p>1. Taxis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Delta Cars currently provide the Trusts taxi service. b) The 2010/11 cost for the PCT's taxi service is £3,372. NHS Oldham also incurred taxi costs for the Shawside Recovery Unit, amounting to £2,476, however this is non-recurrent funding. c) Jonthan Cross, TEL: 0161 622 6506 jcross@nhs.net, NHS Oldham, Ellen House, Waddington Street, Oldham, OL9 6EE. d) NHS carried out a tender via the usual tender process, 2 years ago. It was for three years and expires Feb/March 2013. NHS Oldham will not be carrying out another tender as PCT will be abolished on 31 March 2013.

2. PTS

- a) North West Ambulance Service (NWAS)
- b) Forecast year end of £1,690,474 (2010/11).
- c) The details for the Ambulance Commissioning Team based at NHS Blackpool and the contact details in the first instance are as follows:

Chris O'Neill
Programme Director,
Collaborative Commissioning

Chris.O'Neill@blackpool.nhs.uk

T: 01253 95 3579

NHS Blackpool
Blackpool Stadium
Seasiders Way
Blackpool
FY1 6JX

- d) The current model of service is based on the same footprint as the Paramedic Emergency Service (PES) commissioned on a collaborative basis on behalf of the 24 PCTs by NHS Blackpool, as Lead Commissioner across the North West. NHS Blackpool is supported by 3 Sub-Regional Chief Executive Leads (Greater Manchester, Cumbria and Cheshire and Merseyside), who are responsible for supporting the Lead Chief Executive (NHS Blackpool) and engaging with their constituent PCTs on ambulance commissioning for both the Paramedic Emergency Service (PES) and latterly, the Patient Transport Service (PTS).

This forms the basis for the agreed collaborative governance arrangements with the Lead Chief Executive reporting to the North West Alliance of PCT Chief Executives who have endorsed the governance arrangements in place.

In recognition of the fragmented nature of the commissioning arrangements in place at the time, in December 2007 NHS Bury, as the Coordinating Commissioner for ambulance services, sought approval from the PCT Alliance (whose membership is comprised of the Chief Executives of the 24 North West PCTs) to undertake a comprehensive review of PTS provision in the North West. Over 68+ contracts with the existing Provider were identified and not uniform in respect to terms and conditions.

In December 2008, the 2009/10 Operating Framework and PBR guidance made it clear that the future commissioning of PTS would

from 2009/10 be a PCT and not a Provider (Trust) responsibility.

In recognition of the amount of work involved in the standardisation and consolidation of the contracts, a letter from the Lead Chief Executive was issued to PCTs and Providers in February 2009 to advise them to maintain steady state in 2009/10 until the new commissioning arrangements could be put into place. PCTs were advised to block back funds to Providers who, in turn, should contract for the provision of PTS.

The review was undertaken by external consultants and concluded that: A consolidation of the contractual arrangements would provide, more consistent quality and access to services for patients across the North West

The SHA guidance on requirements for PBR and the Operating Framework also reflected this position. In 2010/11, as part of the planning process led by the Ambulance PTS Steering Group they reviewed the principles for Cooperation and Competition and were cognisant of the guidance and worked on the principles set out below:

- Commissioners must commission services from the Providers who are best placed to deliver the needs of their patients and populations
- Commissioners and Providers must cooperate to improve services and to deliver seamless and sustainable care to patients
- Payment regimes and financial intervention in the system must be fair and transparent

The rationale followed that the interim arrangements would not halt the pace of change, and the principles were consistent in that there would be a seamless service for patients with fair and transparent funding arrangements.

We identified prior to March 2010 that further considerable work was required and informed the North West health system that the current arrangement of Provider to Provider Contracts and Agreements (blocking back) would remain in place until the work was completed for implementation in 2011/12.

Hence, we would not have been in a position to fully tender the service, in line with the currently agreed model, as procurement takes between 9 and 12 months. We are only now, this financial year, at a point when the service specification has been completed, the finances aggregated and the views of key stakeholders taken into account.

	<p>The agreement to enter into a one year Contract with the existing Provider on the consolidation/aggregation of the existing Contracts provided the best means by which to advise GPCC's of their future potential commissioning options.</p> <p>On behalf of the 24 PCTs from April 2011/12 NHS Blackpool has formally taken on responsibility for the management of both the Paramedic Emergency Service (PES) and the Patients Transport Service (PTS).</p>
--	--