

Date: 16 July 2019
Our ref: 2461429
Contact: Christine Coomber
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Mr Olivier Deneve
Clinical Council for Eye Health Commissioning

People and Communities - Information requests
North Somerset Council
Town Hall
Weston-super-Mare
BS23 1UJ

DX 744900 Clevedon

Dear Mr Deneve

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I can confirm that the information requested is held by North Somerset Council. I have detailed below the information that is being released to you.

1. Do you currently commission vision screening in school of children aged 4 – 5 years old?

Yes

2. If yes, please list the key features of your commissioned screening service

2a. Settings

In school

2b. Screening personnel (e.g. orthoptist, school nurse or other health professional)

School Nurse

2c. The onward care pathway for children who fail the vision screening

Children who fail the vision screening in school are, dependent on the actual results of the screening, either referred to an Optician's clinic at the Seashore Centre (Weston General Hospital), Bristol Hospital, or to a local high street Optician. When referred to a local Optician, the School Nurse will document on the results form, '*Please inform us of the outcome of this referral*', this is sent home to the parents, and in high a number of cases the parents/carers will contact the team to inform of results. For those children who are referred onto a hospital based Optician's clinic, a copy of the follow up clinic letter is requested and may also be received.

2d. The quality assurance (QA) processes (audit) and identified clinical lead for the vision screening service.

There are screening link nurses identified within the team. All of the School Nurses and Assistants receive annual face to face training from the Specialist Nurses in Bristol, which can then be cascaded to new members of the team. Competency is assessed as part of the specific role Competency Framework. New members joining the team during the academic year will receive training from the link nurses as part of their induction.

3. Tell us how you monitor if every child in your Local Authority has been tested (including those in private schools or those who are home-schooled)

This is done as part of the school entry process which is offered to all children and uptake recorded. Catch-up appointments are provided for those who are not able to attend an original appointment.

4. Tell us whether the programme will be commissioned again in the next financial year

Yes

Given the response to question 4, question 5 does not apply.

North Somerset Council now considers that it has complied with your request. However, you have a right to appeal if you are dissatisfied with our response. Requests for an internal review must be made in writing, and within 40 working days of this response being issued to you. When requesting an internal review, please include your reference number, the date of your original request and your contact details. Please also include an explanation of why you are dissatisfied with our response. Requests for an internal review should be sent to foi@n-somerset.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.
Phone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Christine Coomber
Directorate Governance Co-ordinator