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Doc Ref	FOI 9049
Ask for	Debbie Watson
Direct Line	0161 342 5614
Date	5 August 2019

Mr Denève

By email:

request-587738-97c89bba@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Denève,

Freedom of Information – Request for Information
Unique Reference: FOI 9049

Thank you for your request for information dated 8 July 2019, which the Council received by email. You have requested the following information:

1. *Do you currently commission vision screening in school of children aged 4-5 years old? Y / N*

If YES, would you please:

2. *List the key features of your commissioned screening service:*
 - a. *Settings (e.g. school).*
 - b. *Screening personnel (e.g. orthoptist, school nurse or other health professional).*
 - c. *The onward care pathway for children who fail the vision screening.*
 - d. *The quality assurance (QA) processes (audit) and identified clinical lead for the vision screening service.*
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).*
4. *Tell us whether the programme will be commissioned again in the next financial year.*
5. *If NO- you do not currently commission a vision screening service in your area, would you please tell us:*
 - a. *why you do not commission vision screening?*
 - b. *whether a service is planned for the next financial year (2020/21)?*
 - c. *whether an existing service in your area has been recently decommissioned."*

I am pleased to advise that the Council can provide the information that you have requested.

1. Yes.

2.

- a) The vision screening is delivered in reception class of primary schools.
 - b) The screening is delivered by orthoptists.
 - c) Those who have reduced visual acuity (below 0.2 crowded Keeler Log MAR), have a manifest or significant latent squint with reduced binocular function are referred to a community optometry service for a refraction, fundus and media examination. If the screening examination is not complete due to ability or cooperation then these are referred for review in the community orthoptic service. If results are borderline, then a child is referred to community orthoptic service for review. If deemed necessary then a child will be referred to the consultant ophthalmologist in the acute setting.
 - d) Outcomes of those referred are looked at to determine if they are false referrals. Paper work and letters are updated as required.
3. Tameside Council does not hold this information. Please contact Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust: <https://www.tamesidehospital.nhs.uk/media/freedom-of-information.htm>
4. Yes.
5. Not applicable.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint, or request a review of the Council's decision, please write to Sandra J Stewart, Borough Solicitor, at PO BOX 317, Ashton under Lyne, OL6 0GS.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Commissioner cannot normally make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Council. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF and at www.ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Debbie Watson,
Assistant Director of Population Health