

Date 10 October 2019

Ref: SW-019-093

Dear Mr Douglas

**Freedom of Information Request – SW-19-093**

Thank you for your recent request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received by NHS Swale Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on 8 October 2019. The information you have requested is listed below together with the response:

- 1) Is your Wheelchair service procured as a separate service, or is it combined with other services such as Community Equipment, Prosthetics etc. If so, which services is it combined with?**

NHS Swale Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) can confirm that the wheelchair service for Kent and Medway is procured as a separate service.

- 2) Is your wheelchair service procured as an integrated wheelchair service (i.e. Assessments and approved repair in one contract) or separately as different contracts?**

The CCG can confirm that the service is for the provision of an integrated wheelchair service to include assessments and approved repair in one contract.

- 3) Is your provider / providers an NHS organisation or a contracted out non NHS organisation?**

The CCG can confirm the wheelchair service is provided by a non-NHS organisation.

- 4) What is the name of your current Wheelchair Services provider – or if Approved Repair and Assessments are provided separately, what are the names of the providers for each service?**

The CCG can confirm the current Kent and Medway wheelchair service provider is Millbrook Healthcare. Millbrook Healthcare has been providing wheelchair services on behalf of the NHS for over 20 years.

**5) Is your wheelchair service exclusive to your CCG?**

The CCG can confirm that the wheelchair service is not exclusive to our CCG.

**6) If your service is combined with another CCG please provide a list of the CCGs that share this wheelchair service and confirm who is the lead CCG?**

The wheelchair service for Kent and Medway is managed by Thanet CCG on behalf of the eight Kent and Medway CCGs (Thanet CCG, Ashford CCG, South Kent Coast CCG, Canterbury and Coastal CCG, West Kent CCG, Swale CCG, Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG, Medway CCG).

**7) When was each part of your wheelchair service (Assessment, Approved Repair, or integrated) last tendered?**

The integrated wheelchair service was last tendered in 2016.

**8) When does the current contract expire. Please provide details of any potential contract extensions?**

The current contract expires on 31 March 2020 (a 24 month extension is also permitted).

**9) Please provide the date this Wheelchair service will be next tendered?**

The CCG does not hold this information and is unable to confirm this at the current time.

**10) What is the size of the population covered by your wheelchair service?**

The wheelchair service is commissioned on behalf of the eight CCGs in Kent and Medway which has a population of 1,805,623 (2015).

**11) How many registered users are served by the Wheelchair Service?**

The CCG can confirm that based on the latest data, to August 2019, the total number of service users currently registered with the wheelchair service is 21,173.

**12) What is the contract spend in the last financial year for the integrated Wheelchair service?**

The CCG can confirm the annual budget for the Kent and Medway wheelchair service for 2018/2019 was £5,156,464. However, in 2018/2019 financial year, all Kent and Medway CCGs approved additional funding of £523,589 for the unexpected additional cost pressure associated with the caseload inherited from the previous provider.

We hope that this has dealt with your request for information however, should you remain dissatisfied, you have the right to request that we conduct an internal review of your request. If you would like us to conduct such a review please contact us within two months of this letter using the contact details below:

E-mail: [swccg.northkent.foi@nhs.net](mailto:swccg.northkent.foi@nhs.net)

Post: FOI, NHS Swale Clinical Commissioning Group, Bramblefield Clinic, Grovehurst Road, Kemsley Sittingbourne Kent ME10 2ST

Your request for an internal review will then be processed in accordance with our Freedom of Information Policy, a copy of which can be found on our website:

[www.swaleccg.nhs.uk](http://www.swaleccg.nhs.uk)

If you are still dissatisfied following the internal review, you have the right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner provides full and detailed guidance on the Freedom of Information Act, and on when and how to complain.

Please find below the link to their website page and their helpline number.

<https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/>

Helpline number: 0303 123 1113

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. An anonymised version of our response will therefore be posted on our website.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

*Mary Valentine*

Mary Valentine

FOI Co-ordinator

Dartford Gravesham and Swanley CCG [DGSCCG.foi@nhs.net](mailto:DGSCCG.foi@nhs.net)

Swale CCG [SWCCG.foi@nhs.net](mailto:SWCCG.foi@nhs.net)

Telephone: 03000 424 901

