Dear

Further to your request for information dated 19 July 2016 the information requested is below

1. Please confirm whether your CCG commissions services for people with neurological conditions. If confirmed, please state which of the conditions listed in Annex A are included in these services.

NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group will commission services for conditions that are the responsibility of the CCG. Services for people with other conditions will be commissioned by the NHS England Specialised Commissioning and details can be found here

https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/spec-services/key-docs/

2. Please confirm whether your CCG has made an assessment of the prevalence of neurological conditions in your area. If confirmed, please provide details of the assessment, including the individual conditions listed.

NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group has not undertaken a specific assessment of neurological prevalence to date, but this is currently being picked up under the Right Care Programme.

3. Please confirm whether your CCG has made an assessment of the number of people using neurological services in your area. If confirmed, please provide details of the assessment, including the individual conditions assessed.
NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group has not undertaken a specific assessment of neurological prevalence to date, but this is currently being picked up under the Right Care Programme.

4. Please confirm whether your CCG has made an assessment of:

i) the total costs of neurological services in your area. If confirmed, please provide details of the assessment.

This information is available from Programme Budgeting:

https://www.england.nhs.uk/resources/resources-for-ccgs/prog-budgeting/

ii) the per patient costs of neurological services in your area. If confirmed, please provide details of the assessment.

NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group has not undertaken a specific assessment of neurological prevalence to date, but this is currently being picked up under the Right Care Programme.

5. Please confirm whether your CCG collects data on the experience of patients using neurological services. If confirmed, please provide details.

NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group would do this if it was reviewing services (e.g. Stroke review) but otherwise providers are required to survey patients via contract arrangements.

6. Please confirm whether your CCG:

Depending on the outcome of the Right Care work, should a neurological-specific piece of work be taken forward, we would always seek to engage patients where possible / appropriate, particularly if any new services or pathways are developed.

i) includes service users in decision-making on the commissioning of neurological services,

ii) includes service users in providing ongoing feedback on the quality of neurological services,

iii) takes any specific measures to support participation of people with neurological conditions in decision-making or providing feedback. If confirmed, please provide details.

7. Please confirm whether your CCG collects outcomes data on the quality of neurological services in your area. If confirmed, please provide details of the quality measures that you use.

This is not something that NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group currently ‘collects’ but again, further work may fall out of the Right Care Programme on this in terms of how we capture and use outcomes information.
8. Please confirm whether your CCG has taken any action to promote integration across primary, secondary, tertiary and social care services for people with neurological conditions. If confirmed, please provide details of what action has been taken.

NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group has led on a Kent-wide Stroke review which is a prime example of this. Information on this review is widely available in the public domain.

9. Please confirm whether your CCG has received a “neurology focus pack” sent out in April 2016 by NHS Right Care as part of its Commissioning for Value programme, and whether your CCG has taken any action as a result. If confirmed, please provide details of what action has been taken.

NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group has received all focus packs that NHS Right Care has made available (including Neurology) and have a dedicated programme manager leading on this piece of review work to take forward any priority areas where the CCG is an outlier.

If you have any queries or concerns please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service that you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision you should write to Complaints. NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group 2nd Floor Gravesham Civic Centre Gravesend Kent DA12 1AU or email at dgsccg.complaints@nhs.net

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Clinical Commissioning Group. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Telephone: 08456 306060 or 01625 54 57 45
www.ico.gov.uk