REQUEST AND RESPONSE

I am writing in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 received on 31 July 2013 by NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group. All answers relate to NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group only. I can confirm NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group does hold the information you requested. The information you requested is listed below together with the response:

1. How many AQP contracts awarded by the CCG are currently held by:

(a) NHS providers

(b) Commercial providers

(c) Others (please specify with explanation of any definitions used)

AQP musculoskeletal back and neck – 16 providers are accredited across Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley, West Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Groups. Providers were accredited in September/October 2012, and the majority of providers began delivering services on 1 April 2013. Of the 16, four providers are NHS, the remainder are non-NHS providers.

AQP Non-Obstetric Ultrasound – 15 providers are accredited. These are five NHS Trusts, five GP practice providers and five independent sector providers.

AQP Direct Access MRI – 12 providers are accredited. These are five NHS Trusts, and seven independent sector providers.

The AQP for Psychological Therapies was led by the Contract and Procurement Team within the Primary Care Trust and the CCG does not hold the relevant details.
2. How many AQP contracts will be tendered in the next 12 months by the CCG and in which services or clinical area are these expected to be tendered?

At the moment there are no plans to tender for any AQP services within the 2013-14 period.

3. What was the annual expenditure on patient services inherited by the CCG from local health care bodies when the CCG was founded in 2013?

The CCG’s commissioning budget for 2013/14 is £284 million (as set out in the Annual Operating Plan).

4. In terms of financial planning, has the CCG:

   (a) Produced a budget or financial projection/s for future years and if so, please provide what the total annual expenditure on patient services is expected to be in these budgets or financial projections?

   The Annual Operating Plan can be found on the CCG website:

   http://www.dartfordgraveshamswanleyccg.nhs.uk/about-us/publications/?assetdet7065845=294877&categoriesctl7566251=10414

   (b) Do any future budgets or financial projections include savings, efficiencies or other changes that are likely to lead to a reduction in future CCG expenditure and if so, in which services is expenditure to be reduced and to what extent (i.e. what is the previous expenditure and expected expenditure)?

   Annual Operating Plan – slide 45-53 – please see the above link.

5. Are there any positions on the CCG board that have remained unfilled since the CCG came into force? Please identify which positions were not filled and why they have not been filled.

   No – all are filled.

6. Does the CCG have a representative from the following backgrounds on its board?

   (a) A public health clinician - Yes
   (b) A medical academic - No
   (c) A hospital consultant - Yes
   (d) A salaried or locum GP - Yes
7. Does the CCG’s constitution include a formal commitment to engage with the Local Medical Committee (e.g. commit to regular meetings, include an observer seat on the board of the CCG)?

The CCG’s Constitution can be found on the website:

http://www.dartfordgraveshamswanleyccg.nhs.uk/about-us/publications/?assetdet7065845=289908&categoriesctl7566251=10415

P25 - para 7.7.2 role of the Clinical Deputy Accountable Officer includes reference to the LMC
Page 50 - para 2.2.18 Appointment to the Governing Body and the role of the LMC.