RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thanks you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 received on 13 January 2014 by NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The information you have requested is listed below together with the response:

Please could I request the following information:

1. What funding – both in total and per head of population – did you allocate for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) for 2013-2014?

*NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG does not routinely commission complementary and alternative medicine. The paragraphs below from the Kent and Medway Referral And Treatment Criteria (RATC) sets out the occasions when these may be funded:

**Complementary and Alternative Therapies**

*These treatments are not routinely funded. These include: Acupuncture, Aromatherapy, Chinese Medicines, Chiropractic Therapy, Clinical Ecology, Herbal Remedies, Homeopathy, Hypnotherapy, Massage, Osteopathy and Reflexology. This list is not exhaustive and other procedures not listed here but that are considered ‘alternative’ therapies will be considered in the same way.*

*Some procedures may be available through services in hospices and hospitals as part of a palliative care package; these are through charitable services and not commissioned services.*

*Some patients may be treated as part of an integrated conventional and complimentary service for a specific condition where these are commissioned.*

2. What funding – both in total and per head of population – are you planning to allocate for CAM for 2014-2015?

*Please see above*

3. What forms of CAM were funded in 2013-2014 and for which medical problems?

*NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG did not fund any form of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) in 2013/14.*

4. What forms of CAM will be funded in 2014-2015 and for which medical problems?
NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG do not plan to fund any CAM in 2014/15, unless the request meets with the RATC criteria.

5. Have you reduced or stopped funding of any forms of CAM in 2013-2014 and do you intend to reduce or stop funding of any forms of CAM in 2014-2015? If so, which forms of CAM and for what medical conditions?

N/A

6. Did you introduce or increase funding of any forms of CAM in 2013-2014 and do you intend to introduce or increase funding of any CAM in 2014-2015? If so, which forms of CAM and for which medical conditions?

N/A for 2013/14 or 2014/15.