Dear

Further to your request for information dated 7 September 2017 the information requested is below

1. **Who is the service lead/manager responsible for CHC and NHS Funded Nursing Care assessments?**
   a. Janet Manuel, Head of SAPT
   b. Santha Mackenzie, Head of SAPT (Mental Health)

2. **How many permanently contracted nurse assessors are employed by the CCG?**
   a. It is not possible to answer this question accurately as the team that employs Nurse Assessors, The Specialist Assessment and Placements team (SAPT), acts on behalf of three North Kent CCGs (Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley + Medway + Swale). Questions raised through this FOI suggest that this question relates to NHS CHC Nurse Assessors which provides a further difficulty in answering this question as SAPT staff also support a range of other areas including Children’s Continuing Care, Specialist Placements (Mental Health, Transforming Care, Children & Young People, Neuro- Rehabilitation, Out of Area Mental Health Treatment) & Personal Health Budgets.

3. **Has the CCG contracted external providers/staffing agencies to complete CHC and Funded Nursing Care assessments?**
   a. No. The Specialist Assessment and Placements Team have always co-ordinated current assessments and Funded Nursing Care assessments.

Ref No: DGS 102
21 September 2017
4. How long was the contract for?
   a. n/a.

5. What was the total value of this contract?
   a. n/a.

6. How many CHC or NHS Funded Nursing Care assessments were completed under this contract?
   a. n/a.

7. How many CHC or NHS Funded Nursing Care assessments were not completed within the advised 28 days from referral for 2017 so far and in total for 2016?
   a. The National Framework for NHS Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care states “the time that elapses between Checklist being received by the CCG and the funding decision being made should, in most cases, not exceed 28 days”. In-line with this the CCG provides quarterly reports to NHS England on the number of CHC assessments not completed within 28 days. The below number of assessments have been reported as taking in excess of 28 days:

   2016 = 7,
   2017 April – June = 0

   b. The National Framework for NHS Continuing Healthcare does not require assessments to be undertaken for NHS Funded Nursing Care as they are required in relation to NHS CHC. Similarly the 28 day assessment requirement for NHS CHC is not applicable to NHS Funded Nursing Care. SAPT require Nursing Homes to submit patient assessment and notification forms following patient admission to a Nursing Home and annually thereafter where received forms are assessed. SAPT aim to process / review received notification forms within a week of receipt.

8. How many “Fast Track” CHC or NHS Funded Nursing Care assessments have been completed for 2017 so far and in total for 2016?
   a. The “Fast Track Pathway Tool for NHS Continuing Healthcare” Policy directs appropriate clinicians to refer patients using the “NHS Continuing Healthcare Fast Track Tool” where a person has a rapidly deteriorating condition and the condition may be entering a terminal phase. CCGs are required to decide that a person is eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare upon receipt of a completed Fast Track Tool. As
such Fast Track CHC assessments are not undertaken in the same way as is required for other NHS CHC referrals. The below number of Fast Track CHC patient referrals were received from 2016:

\[
\begin{align*}
2016 & \quad = 485, \\
2017 \text{ April – June} & \quad = 108
\end{align*}
\]

b. The National Framework for NHS Continuing Healthcare does not require assessments to be undertaken for NHS Funded Nursing Care as they are required in relation to NHS CHC. SAPT require Nursing Homes to submit patient assessment and notification forms following patient admission to a Nursing Home and annually thereafter where received forms are assessed. The CCG provides quarterly reports to NHS England on the number of patients who have received NHS Funded Nursing Care through the course of each financial year. The below number of patients received NHS Funded Nursing Care:

\[
\begin{align*}
2016/17 & \quad = 798, \\
2017/18 \text{ Quarter 1} & \quad = 585
\end{align*}
\]

9. How many CHC and NHS Funded Nursing Care assessments does the CCG currently have outstanding?

a. The below number of NHS CHC assessments are currently being undertaken:

25

b. The National Framework for NHS Continuing Healthcare does not require assessments to be undertaken for NHS Funded Nursing Care as they are required in relation to NHS CHC. SAPT require Nursing Homes to submit patient assessment and notification forms following patient admission to a Nursing Home where received forms are assessed. The below number are pending assessment:

5

10. Does the CCG commission any other NHS or Local Authority bodies to undertake CHC or NHS Funded Nursing Care assessments?

No.

11. Does the CCG have any plans to engage external providers/staffing agencies to support with CHC and NHS Funded Nursing Care assessments?

No.
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| Wycliffe House,                                  |
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| Wilmslow,                                        |
| Cheshire                                        |
| SK9 5AF                                         |
| Telephone: 08456 306060 or 01625 54 57 45       |
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