Dear

Freedom of Information Request

Further to your Freedom of Information Request dated 17 July 2018 please see formal response below

1) Please provide copies of any policies your CGG has on the commissioning of services for those with an FASD.

There are no policies currently in place for FASD.

2) What services has your CCG commissioned to meet the ‘reasonable requirements’, as is your duty under Section 3 NHS Act 2006, of those in your area who have or may have Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders as a result of antenatal exposure to alcohol, and what is your CCG doing to secure improvement in the physical and mental health of persons with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of FASD (as is in your power under Section 3A NHS Act 2006)? Please release any information you hold concerning provision for:

a. prevention education following the Chief Medical Officers’ guidelines that the safest course is not to drink while pregnant or attempting to become pregnant;

This will form part of the prevention Workstream of the Local Maternity System transformation plan.

b. diagnosis for both children and adults;

There are no specific services commissioned.
c. post-diagnostic care in the years 2013-2018 from professionals including, but not limited to, paediatricians, GPs, nurses, psychologists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, mental health services and other disability support services to provide specialised intervention services for patients on the FASD spectrum across their lifespan?

There are no specific services commissioned for FASD.

3) Please release any information concerning how is your CCG exercising its duty (as specified under Section 14R NHS Act 2006) to securing “continuous improvement in the quality of services provided” to individuals with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders “for or in connection with the prevention, diagnosis or treatment” of FASD?

The Act has been superseded by the 2012 Act and this section is not specific to FASD.

4) What is the budget for commissioned services for FASD in the current financial year? What was the budget in financial years beginning in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017?

There is not a dedicated budget for FASD.

5) Please release any agreed plans for service expansion for future years.

None are yet developed.

6) Has your CCG conducted, commissioned or assisted the conduct of research into any matters relating to the causation, prevention, diagnosis or treatment of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, as is in your powers according to Section 5 NHS Act 2006 Schedule 1 (paragraph 13).

The CCG uses the information/evidence produced by NICE.

7) Does your CCG commission services from the National FASD Clinic? If so, what is the budget for this in the current financial year?

No.

8) Please release any information concerning ways in which your CCG is fulfilling its duty (specified under Section 14Z, NHS Act 2006) to promote education and training related to FASD?

This section of the Act 2012 Health and Social Care Act (supersedes 2006 Act) states “Each clinical commissioning group must, in exercising its functions, have regard to the need to promote education and training for the persons mentioned in section 1F(1) so as to assist the Secretary of State in the discharge of the duty under that section.” As such, this is not specific to FASD.
9) Do you have a lead person in your CCG on FASD? Please provide the name and role of the person responsible.

No.

10) Please release any information concerning the steps are you taking or have you taken (according to your duty under section 14Z2 of the NHS Act, 2006), to involve individuals with FASD or their caregivers in “planning commissioning arrangements; in the development and consideration of proposals for change; in decisions affecting the operation of commissioning arrangements where implementation would have an impact on the manner in which services are delivered or the range of services available.”?

As per response in 8 above.

11) How many inquiries/requests/letters have you received from medical practitioners or patients/families in your area related to FASD in the years 2013-2018?

None.

Please note, that the supply of information in response to a FOI request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. Under UK copyright law you can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs.

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