Freedom of Information Request – DGS 183

Thank you for your recent request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received by NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on 25 January 2019. The information you have requested is listed below together with the response:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act about your Clinical Commissioning Group’s plans for expenditure on services for disabled children and their families from 2019-2020. Could you please let me know whether the CCG plans to:

a) Increase expenditure in real terms
b) Maintain current levels of expenditure in real terms
c) Maintain current levels of expenditure in cash terms
d) Make cash reductions to current levels of expenditure

NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group does not specifically commission services for disabled children as children’s services are commissioned for the whole population of children and young people. Disabled children receive additional support as detailed in their Education Health and Care Plans.

Could you also please let me know whether these plans have been finalised; or are currently still proposals (and if the latter, whether they are subject to public consultation)?

Finally, could you please send me copies of (or links to) any Board or Committee papers with respect to plans for social care for disabled children and their families; and details of any public consultations on such plans.

Social Care is provided by Kent County Council who may hold the requested information. If you have not already done so, you may like to contact them at

Information Resilience and Transparency Team
Kent County Council
Room 2.87 Sessions House
County Hall
Maidstone ME14 1XQ

Email freedoofinformation@kent.gov.uk

We hope that this has dealt with your request for information however, should you remain dissatisfied, you have the right to request that we conduct an internal review of your request. If you would like us to conduct such a review please contact us within two months of this letter using the contact details below:

E-mail: swccg.northkent.foi@nhs.net

Post: FOI, NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group, 2nd Floor, Gravesham Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU.

Your request for an internal review will then be processed in accordance with our Freedom of Information Policy, a copy of which can be found on our website:

www.dartfordgraveshamswanleyccg.nhs.uk

If you are still dissatisfied following the internal review, you have the right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner provides full and detailed guidance on the Freedom of Information Act, and on when and how to complain.

Please find below the link to their website page and their helpline number.
https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/
Helpline number: 0303 123 1113

In line with the Information Commissioner’s directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. An anonymised version of our response will therefore be posted on our website.

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