Dear

Freedom of Information Request – DGS 188

Thank you for your recent email requesting more detailed information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received by NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on 30 January 2019. The information you have requested is listed below together with the response:

1. Wheelchair service provider within the CCG

   a. Is the provider an NHS organisation or a non-NHS organisation?

   The wheelchair service for Kent and Medway (across eight CCGs: NHS Thanet CCG, NHS Ashford CCG, NHS South Kent Coast CCG, NHS West Kent CCG, NHS Swale CCG, NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley CCG, NHS Medway CCG) is provided by a non NHS organisation.

   b. If it's a non-NHS organisation what is its name?

   NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group can confirm that the current Kent and Medway wheelchair service provider is Millbrook Healthcare. Millbrook Healthcare has been providing wheelchair services on behalf of the NHS for over 20 years.

   c. What is the name of the Wheelchair Service Manager?

   The commissioning manager for the Kent and Medway wheelchair service is Tamsin Flint.

   d. Please list all the wheelchair services covered in your CCG area.

   The Kent and Medway wheelchair service is provided in accordance with the Healthcare Standards for NHS Commissioned Wheelchair Services (April 2015). The service provides wheelchairs for adult, child and young
person service users with a long term (greater than 6 months) physical disability that affects their mobility necessitating a wheelchair and/or specialist postural seating that optimises mobility, comfort and safety to meet their overall aim of achieving independence and optimal function related to activities of daily living.

The wheelchair services includes: referral, assessment, prescription, provision of equipment, equipment delivery and collection, repair service, planned preventative maintenance, re-assessment and, provision of service user training on equipment.

2. About Wheelchair service

a. How many registered wheelchair users are there in your CCG area as of January 2019?

The CCG does not hold this information. The latest data we have is for December 2018 which is for the whole of Kent and Medway which shows that the total number of service users registered with the services is 18,739,

b. Of the current registered users, how many users currently have a powered wheelchair in your CCG area?

The CCG does not hold this information as we do not currently categorise the data in this way. We refer to Millbrook Healthcare for this information.

c. How many registered users received powered wheelchairs in the 2017/2018 financial year?

The CCG does not hold this information as we do not currently categorise the data in this way. We refer to Millbrook Healthcare for this information

i. How many registered users were assessed for powered wheelchairs in the 2017/2018 financial year?

The CCG does not hold this information as we do not currently categorise the data in this way. We refer to Millbrook Healthcare for this information

d. Of the current registered users, how many powered wheelchairs received maintenance or repairs in the 2017/2018 financial year?

The CCG does not hold this information as we do not currently categorise the data in this way. We refer to Millbrook Healthcare for this information

3. About the Wheelchair services in your CCG

a. What was the total budget for wheelchair services in your CCG area for the 2017/2018 financial year?
The total budget for the whole of the Kent and Medway wheelchair service for 2017/18 was £6,156,464. NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group’s budget was £727,061.

b. What was the budget for powered wheelchairs in your CCG for the 2017/2018 financial year, excluding maintenance?

The CCG does not hold this information as the budget was not broken down to this level. The CCG will be working with Millbrook Healthcare on a demand and capacity review and powered wheelchairs will be part of this review.

c. How much money was spent on powered wheelchairs in your CCG in the 2017/2018 financial year, excluding maintenance? In 2016/2017?

The CCG does not hold this information as we do not currently categorise the data in this way.

d. What was your CCG’s budget for maintenance and repairs on powered wheelchairs for the 2017/2018 financial year?

The CCG does not hold this information as we do not currently categorise the data in this way.

e. How much money was spent on maintenance and repairs of powered wheelchairs in your CCG in 2017/2018 financial year? In 2016/2017?

The CCG does not hold this information as we do not currently categorise the data in this way.

f. What kind of discount do your contracted suppliers give you on powered wheelchairs? On maintenance and repairs?

The CCG does not hold this information.

4. About the Equipment Provided by your wheelchair service

a. What is the average cost of the powered wheelchairs your CCG area provided in the 2017/2018 financial year?

The CCG does not hold this information.

b. What is the average cost of the maintaining the powered wheelchairs you provide per chair per year in the 2017/2018 financial year?

The CCG does not hold this information.

c. Do your wheelchair services provide powered wheelchair vouchers?
The Kent and Medway wheelchair service offers the wheelchair voucher scheme to service to service users and this is applicable to all wheelchair types including powered wheelchairs.

i. **If so, what percentage of powered wheelchair users opted for a wheelchair voucher or took a personal wheelchair budget rather than an NHS wheelchair in 2017/2018?**

The CCG does not have a breakdown of voucher data to provide information on powered wheelchairs.

ii. **What is the average voucher amount your wheelchair services gave towards powered wheelchairs in the 2017/2018 financial year?**

The CCG does not hold this information.

d. **What is the average amount your wheelchair services allocated to maintenance and repairs on powered wheelchair vouchers in the 2017/2018 financial year?**

The CCG does not hold this information.

i. **How was this amount formulated?**

The CCG does not hold this information.

5. **About the Introduction of Personal Wheelchair Budgets**

a. **Does your wheelchair service now provide personal wheelchair budgets (PWB)?**

The Kent and Medway wheelchair service does not currently provide personal wheelchair budgets. The CCG is working with Millbrook Healthcare with the intention to provide Personal Wheelchair Budgets in 2019/20.

b. **How will your service calculate the PWB amount for powered wheelchair users in the 2018/2019 financial year?**

This information is yet to be established.

i. **What will the average amount allocated to maintenance and repairs be for powered wheelchairs?**

This information is yet to be established.

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.
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.