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**Our Ref: FOI 7722**

**Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Sir/ Madam

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Further to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding Transgender Fertility Treatment, please see below our response to your request.

Request:

**Background:**

Hormone therapy that trans individuals are often prescribed suppresses fertility function and over time can lead to complete loss of fertility.

One therefore naturally may wish to preserve their fertility if undergoing hormone therapy by having their sperm, eggs or embryos frozen and saved for later use in fertility treatment during intervening fertility treatments.

We understand through HFEA Guidance that it is deemed best to store your sperm, eggs or embryos before medical treatments for gender dysphoria if one may wish to have children who are biologically related to them in future.

**FOI Request**

We understand that funding for storing eggs, sperm or embryos before having medical treatment for gender dysphoria varies and we seek information in this regard and write to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

- 1. Your CCG's policy regarding fertility treatment and transgender individuals under the age of 18 years old**
- 2. Specifically any guideline or policy you use to consider whether a trans applicant under the age of 18 years old should be commissioned for fertility treatment**

Response:

The CCG's Sub Fertility Policy can be found on our website at:

<https://www.sthelensccg.nhs.uk/your-health/drugs-and-treatment-policies/>. It is currently under review, the final date for publication is not known but it is expected in the next 6 months.

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact us to discuss.

We also wish to take this opportunity to inform you that a formal complaints and internal review process is available, which will be managed by a FOI Appeals Officer.

This can be formally requested and must be done within a reasonable period of time (3 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you are not satisfied with the response to a request for information that falls within the Environmental Information Regulations, you should make a representation for a review to FOI Appeals Officer, [sthelensccg.foi@nhs.net](mailto:sthelensccg.foi@nhs.net) within 40 days of receipt of the response.

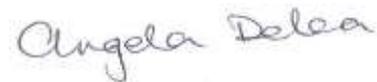
If you are not satisfied with our review under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted at;

ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF  
[www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Should you need any further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela Delea".

**Angela Delea**  
**Associate Director – Corporate Governance**  
**NHS St Helens Clinical Commissioning Group**