

Telephone: 01744 457237
Fax: 01744 624188

Email: sthelensccg.foi@nhs.net

Our Ref: FOI 7857

Date: 1st April 2019

Dear Sir/ Madam

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Further to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding Speech & Language Therapies, please see below our response to your request.

Request/ Response:

We are conducting research into the provision of specialist services for children who stammer in each region across the UK as part of our charity's commitment to improving access to effective intervention. Therefore, I would like to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the clinical provision for children who stammer commissioned by your CCG. Please could you provide us with the following information:

- 1) Does your CCG commission a specialist service for children who stammer? *This includes information about the NHS Trust / Local Authority commissioned to provide the Speech & Language Therapy service and whether there are specialist services available specifically to children who stammer, e.g. dysfluency pathways and/or specialist Speech & Language Therapists. This is included under the Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy Service. There is a dysfluency pathway and Specialist Speech and Language Therapists. If you require more information please contact the service directly; it is provided by Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.*
- 2) What age range does the service cover? *0-19 years, 0-25 years for young people with Specials Educational Needs and Disabilities*
- 3) Does the service have any other specified exclusion criteria?
 - *Children and young people who do not meet the above criteria and who are not registered with a St Helens GP.*
 - *Sensory neural hearing loss and cochlea implant provision, which is regionally commissioned.*
 - *Children with swallowing difficulties in the special care baby unit at Whiston Hospital are supported via specialist provision at Alder Hey.*
- 4) What geographical population does this cover? *Children and young people registered with a St Helens GP*
- 5) Number of referrals made to the service for children suspected of presenting with a stammer over the last year (January 2018 - January 2019) *Information not routinely shared by service with Commissioners; please request from Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust - Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy Service*

- 6) Number of children seen as part of the dysfluency service in the last year (January 2018 - January 2019) [Information not routinely shared by service with Commissioners; please request from Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust - Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy Service.](#)

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 within 40 days of receipt of the response.

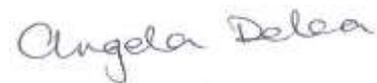
If you are not satisfied with our review under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our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

The ICO can be contacted at;

ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

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

Yours sincerely,



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