Our Reference PC\Sun­­­­1963

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19 February 2021

James Cooper

By email

Dear Mr Cooper

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request for Information – Sunderland CCG**

Thank you for your request received by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 15 February 2021 for information held by Sunderland CCG under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your Request

**The questions below which we would like you to answer are designed to help me understand how you commission children’s palliative care for children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions in your local area.**

**My questions**

1. **Do you have a children’s palliative care service specification? (Yes/No). If so, please attach a copy to your response to this request.**
2. **Do you have a children’s palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition and their parents or carers should have opportunities to be involved in developing an advance care plan? (Yes/No)**
3. **Do you have a children’s palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition should have a named medical specialist who leads and coordinates their care? (Yes/No)**
4. **Do you have a children’s palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition and their parents or carers should be given information about emotional and psychological support, including how to access it? (Yes/No)**
5. **Do you have a children’s palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition should be cared for by a multidisciplinary team that includes members of the specialist paediatric palliative care team? (Yes/No)**
6. **Do you have a children’s palliative care service specification which states that parents or carers of infants, children and young people approaching the end of life should be offered support for grief and loss when their child is nearing the end of their life and after their death? (Yes/No)**
7. **Do you have a children’s palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people approaching the end of life and being cared for at home should have 24-hour access to both children's nursing care and advice from a consultant in paediatric palliative care? (Yes/No)**
8. **Do you have a children’s palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition and their families should have access regular short breaks for respite? (Yes/No)**

Our Response

*St Oswald’s Hospice provides overnight short break provision to children and young people with life-limiting conditions and has done so since 2008. The service is delivered from St Oswald’s Hospice, Gosforth, Newcastle.*

*The current contract includes children and young people’s short breaks only (age 0-18), with separate spot purchasing arrangements in place for young adults (age 19-25).*

*South Tyneside Council is currently the Lead Local Authority (LA) for St Oswald’s on behalf of the following LAs and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs):*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * *Gateshead Council* * *Newcastle upon Tyne City Council* * *North Tyneside Council* * *Northumberland County Council* * *South Tyneside Council* * *City of Sunderland Council* | * *Newcastle Gateshead CCG* * *North Tyneside CCG* * *Northumberland CCG* * *South Tyneside CCG* * *Sunderland CCG* |

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. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the Sunderland CCG website.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the service 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 the Senior Governance Manager using the contact details at the top of this letter quoting the appropriate reference number.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the North of England Commissioning Support Unit.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner’s Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Any information we provide following your request under the Freedom of Information Act will not confer an automatic right for you to re-use that information, for example to publish it. If you wish to re-use the information that we provide and you do not specify this in your initial application for information then you must make a further request for its re-use as per the Re-Use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 [www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk). This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

Pamela Coxon

**Pamela Coxon**

**Information Governance Officer**