FOINHSD26/1801

NHS Devon
Aperture House
Pynes Hill
Rydon Lane
Exeter
EX2 5AZ

d-icb.foi@nhs.net

Tel: 01392 205205

Dear,

Re: Request for information under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

NHS Devon Integrated Care Board (ICB) is confirming in accordance with Section - (1) (a) of the Act, whether it holds the information requested and (b) is supplying it unless otherwise specified.

NHS Devon can confirm it holds part of the requested information.

You requested the following information.

Please provide the following information for each of the last five completed financial years.

1.The number of standard NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) eligibility assessments completed.

This information is published available to download from here - Statistics » Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care

2. The number and percentage of individuals found eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare funding following the initial decision.

This information is published available to download from here - Statistics » Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care

3. The number of requests for Local Resolution received.

NHS Devon considers complying with this part of your request engages exemption section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act - **Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.**

4. The number of Local Resolutions reviews completed.

Please refer to the response provided to answer question 3.

5. The number and percentage of Local Resolutions reviews that resulted in the individual being found eligible for Continuing Healthcare.

This is not a reportable figure. However, very few appeal overturn a previous recommendation for non-eligibility.

6. The number of cases referred to NHS England for an Independent Review Panel.

NHS Devon considers complying with this part of your request engages exemption section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act - **Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.**

7. Where held, the number of Independent Review Panel decisions that resulted in the original ICB decision being overturned.

This information is not held. However, the majority of recommendation and decisions are upheld by the independent review panels.

8.Any reports, audits, quality assurance or benchmarking documents produced in the last five years relating to

- **NHS Continuing Healthcare eligibility decision making**

  Not applicable.

- **Consistency of decision making**

  There are no specific reports/audit, however the teams hold regular peer review sessions to test verification outcomes. Additionally, any case that goes to appeal and then onto NHS England for independent review, is reviewed by a senior experience clinician to check that the original decision can be supported. The ICB will overturn its own decision making if it is felt that that is appropriate.

- **Local Resolutions outcomes**

  All appeals are quality assured by a senior clinician to verify or not the outcome/recommendation.

- **Comparison of the ICB's CHC outcomes with regional or national averages**

  There is cluster information available comparing like for like ICBs. These comparisons are discussed though regional NHS England assurance meetings. NHS Devon ICB is found to be in line with national expectations.

- **Compliance with the National Framework for NHS Continuing Healthcare.**

  There is cluster information available comparing like for like ICBs. These comparisons are discussed though regional NHS England assurance meetings. NHS Devon ICB is found to be in line with national expectations.

9. Any policies, guidance or standard operating procedures currently used by the ICB relating to

- **The conduct of Multidisciplinary Team assessments**
- **The evidence to be considered during CHC assessments**
- **Local Resolution reviews**
- **Quality assurance of CHC eligibility decisions**

See link to the ICBs external website of policies. The AACC Operational Policy covers the bullet points.

Our Policies and Procedures - One Devon

10. Please provide any internal reports or audits identifying significant variation in CHC eligibility rates between localities, assessment teams or individual assessors.

There are no internal reports on this aspect.

11. Please provide figures for Devon alongside national figures.

NHS Devon considers complying with this part of your request engages exemption section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act - **Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.**

Satisfaction

We trust this matter has been dealt with to your satisfaction but if there is anything you need clarifying, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 01392 205205 or emailing d-icb.foi@nhs.net Please remember to quote the reference number at the top of this letter in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision or make a complaint, you can write to the office and arrangements will be made for an independent review. You can write

directly to the NHS Devon Chief Executive Officer if you prefer using the “contact us” details displayed on the NHS Devon website.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the independent review, you have the right to appeal again to the Information Commissioner at:
Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 700
Fax: 01625 524 510

Yours sincerely,

The Freedom of Information Office
NHS Devon Integrated Care Board