

Executive Corridor
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX
Switchboard Tel: 01325 38 0100
Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 06.19.16

Direct line: 01325 743700
Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

8 July 2019

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 11 June 2019 in relation to the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (Trust). We are dealing with your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested information regarding vision screening. Specifically you requested information as follows:

On behalf of the Clinical Council for Eye Health Commissioning we are writing to make an open request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The purpose of this FOI request is to establish the provision of ‘orthoptic-led’ and/or ‘non-orthoptic-led’ vision screening across England.

Definition of ‘Orthoptic-led’:

A service that is led by a designated Orthoptist who is responsible for all aspects of delivery of vision screening to all eligible children. This includes leadership of the personnel delivering the screening, the care pathway and audit and quality assurance mechanisms. The testing of children may be either Orthoptist delivered or delivered by a vision screener trained by an orthoptist.

We would be grateful if you could please answer the following questions and their subsections (where applicable) for the financial year 2019/20 to allow us to establish current provision and support orthoptists in the future to deliver an ‘orthoptic led’ service.

Many thanks for providing this information, it will be extremely useful to support the objective of delivering equitable orthoptic led vision screening for ALL 4-5 year old children by mapping out current provision.

Questions

- 1. How many LA and CCGs are served by your organisation for all acute, community and specialist services? Please list them all.**
- 2. Does your organisation provide the Orthoptic Services for the resident populations of these LAs and CCGs? Y/N**
- 3. Is a vision screening service currently available in the area (by LA or CCG) served by your organisation for providing Orthoptic Services? Y / N**
If NO - please list the LA/CCG that do not provide a vision screening service

If YES – For each commissioned screening service please indicate:

- a. Who commissions it - LA or CCG?**
- b. Its compliance with the PHE service specifications i.e. Orthoptic-led and delivered with Quality Assurance and clinical audit processes (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publicatio...>)**
 - i. Compliant**
 - ii. Not compliant**

4. List the key features of each commissioned screening service:

- a. Settings (e.g. school)?**
- b. Screening personnel (e.g. orthoptist, school nurse or other health professional)?**
- c. The onward care pathway for children who fail the vision screening?**
- d. The quality assurance processes (audit) and identified clinical lead for the vision screening service?**

5. Tell us how you monitor if every eligible child in the Local Authority or CCG commissioning the service has been tested (including those in private schools, or those who are home schooled)?

6. Tell us whether a vision screening programme has been commissioned for the current financial year?

7. If a vision screening service is not currently available, in a Local Authority or CCG served by your Organisation could you please tell us for each of these LA or CCGs?

- a. why it has not been commissioned?**
- b. whether a service is planned for the next financial year (2020/21)?**
- c. whether an existing service has been recently decommissioned?**

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust replies:

The service is provided by Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust. Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust should be the first point of contact for this

information. If you wish to contact them in accordance with Section 16 of the Act (duty to provide advice and assistance) you can contact them via the following addresses:

Darlington 0-19 services
Suite 6, the Beehive
Lingfield Point
Darlington
DL1 1YN

Or

School Nursing Service
Greencroft Centre
1 Woodland Court
Greencroft Industrial Park
Stanley
Durham
DH9 7BF

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 County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust 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 way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by writing to:

The Chief Executive
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX

If, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Website: www.ico.gov.uk.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer