

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group  
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## **Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which was received by the Corporate Affairs Team on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017.

### **You Asked for:**

1. Do you commission palliative care for children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions between the ages of 0 and 25? (yes/no) If yes, how much did you spend on children's palliative care in 2016/17?

**NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) spent £230,035 on children's palliative care in 2016/17.**

2. Do you have a published strategy or care pathway for children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions? If so, please provide a link or an attachment.

**Included in the Service Specification on the NHS Wirral CCG contract, there is an End of Life Pathway. The North West (NW) Children's and Young Persons (CYP) Palliative Care Strategy currently being developed (sits with the NW CYP Network)**

3. Did you ask for your local sustainability and transformation plan to include palliative care for children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions? (Yes/No).

**Sustainability and transformation plans are place-based plans that set out how health systems across England will deliver the priorities set out in the NHS Five Year Forward View, for better health, better care and better value.**

**The Next Steps on the NHS Five Year Forward View, which was published in March 2017, provides a blueprint for the key national strategic priorities, which include cancer, mental health and primary care; the need to manage demand and ease pressure on hospitals, with a focus particularly on supporting frail and older people.**

**The Cheshire and Merseyside STP does not include palliative care for children with life-limiting and life threatening conditions, although it does incorporate the plans that form the Cheshire and Merseyside Women's and Children's Services Partnership, one of the national Vanguard's for new care models.**

<http://www.improvingme.org.uk/news-events/news/cheshire-merseyside-women-s-and-children-s-services-partnership/>

**This does not mean that NHS organisations in the region are not seeking to improve care for children with life limiting conditions, at provider or within local system partnership approaches.**

4. Do you assess numbers and needs of children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions between the ages of 0 and 25 among the population you serve (yes/no)? If yes, please tell us how. Please also tell us how many children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions there are in your area.

**Please see the link below to the Joints Need Assessment which will provide you with this information:**

<http://info.wirral.nhs.uk/ourjsna/>

5. Do you jointly commission palliative care for children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions between the ages of 0 and 25 with your local authorities in a way which is consistent with the Children and Families Act 2014? (yes/no)-

**NHS Wirral CCG does not currently have joint commissioning arrangements insitu, with the local authority, for palliative care for children. However, the CCG does have joint arrangements with the local authority for EHCP (Education Health Care Plans) for 0- 25's.**

6. Do you commission palliative care which enables a child or young person to receive end of life care at home if they wish to do so? (yes/no)

**Yes**

7. Do you commission a rapid transfer process for children and young people with life-limiting conditions to allow urgent transfer to the preferred place (for example from the intensive care unit to their home or to a children's hospice)? (yes/no)

**Yes**

8. Do you take steps to integrate assessments, plans and services for children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions between the ages of 0 and 25, including those without a special educational need and disability (yes/no)? If yes, please tell us how (For example, using education, health and care plans).

**Please see response to question 4**

9. Do you offer personal budgets to children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions? If yes, how many children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions in your area have a personal budget? –

**NHS Wirral CCG has provided a personal budget for three patients within 2016/17.**

10. Do you take steps to make sure that young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions can access palliative care services which are appropriate to their age and developmental stage (yes/no)? If yes, please tell us how.-

**Yes, the CCG resources emergency respite so children/young people have access to emergency support when needed, as per Service Specification for emergency respite.**

11. Do you take steps to make sure that young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions experience smooth transitions from children's to adults' palliative care services (yes/no)? If yes, please tell us how.

**The CCG are aware of a Transitional Organisation Group on the Wirral working on transition for young people. Claire House is also currently developing a transition role (funded by the charity).**

12. Do you commission any of the following services for children with life-limiting or life-threatening conditions? If yes, please state which outcomes you ask service providers to achieve and how much you spent on them in 2016/17:

- A level 4 paediatric palliative care consultant (yes/no)? –  
**No**

- Consistent with the NICE clinical guideline 'End of Life Care for Infants, Children and Young people', a multidisciplinary team that includes the following as a minimum (yes/no)?

- a paediatric palliative care consultant  
**No**

- a nurse with expertise in paediatric palliative care  
**Yes**

- a pharmacist with expertise in specialist paediatric palliative care  
**Claire House has a pharmacist with expertise in specialist paediatric palliative care. However, this is not included within the contract they have with the CCG.**

- experts in child and family support who have experience in end of life care (for example in providing social, practical, emotional, psychological and spiritual support)  
**Claire House has an expert in child and family support. However, this is not included within the contract they have with the CCG.**

- Acute children's palliative care nurses which provide children's palliative care (yes/no)?  
**Yes**

- Community children's nurses which provide children's palliative care (yes/no)?  
**Claire House has a children's nurse which provides children's palliative care. However, this is not included within the contract they have with the CCG.**

- Voluntary sector children's palliative care services (including children's hospice services) (yes/no)? If yes, which voluntary sector services do you commission and how much did you spend on them in 2016/17?

**Yes, Claire House, please see the response to question 1.**

- Community paediatricians which provide children's palliative care (yes/no)?  
**No**

- Emotional and psychological support for children and their families (yes/no)?  
**Claire House provides emotional and psychological support for children and their families. However, this is not included within the contract they have with the CCG.**
- Bereavement care - to families *before* a child under the age of 1 has died (yes/no)?  
**Yes**
- Bereavement care - to families *after* a child under the age of 1 has died (yes/no)?  
**Yes**
- Bereavement care - to families *before* a child or young person aged 1 – 25 has died (yes/no)?  
**Yes**
- Bereavement care - to families *after* a child or young person aged 1 – 25 has died (yes/no)?  
**Yes**
- Equipment - including services which provide wheelchairs and services to maintain and repair equipment (yes/no)?  
**Yes**

13. Do you commission any of the following services to provide care out of hours and at weekends for children with life-limiting or life-threatening conditions? We define 'out of hours and at weekends' as 6:30pm – 8am on weekdays and all day on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

- A level 4 paediatric palliative care consultant (yes/no)?  
**No**
- Consistent with the NICE clinical guideline 'End of Life Care for Infants, Children and Young people', a multidisciplinary team that includes as a minimum:
  - a paediatric palliative care consultant  
**No**
  - a nurse with expertise in paediatric palliative care  
**Yes**
  - a pharmacist with expertise in specialist paediatric palliative care  
**No**
  - experts in child and family support who have experience in end of life care (for example in providing social, practical, emotional, psychological and spiritual support)  
**Claire House have experts in child and family support. However, this is not included within the contract they have with the CCG.**
- Acute children's palliative care nurses which provide children's palliative care (yes/no)?  
**Yes**

- Community children’s nurses which provide children’s palliative care (yes/no)?  
**Yes**
- Voluntary sector children’s palliative care services (including children’s hospice services) (yes/no)? If yes, which voluntary sector services do you commission and how much did you spend on them in 2016/17?

**Please see the table below:**

<b>Claire House 16/17 - Wirral</b>	<b>Total 16/17 Contract value</b>
Emergency Respite (110 nights)	£ 80,899
Hospice to Home (Domiciliary Specialist & EoL)	£ 112,230
24 hour on call advice	£ 15,213
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 208,341</b>

**The above doesn’t include pension indexation.**

- Community paediatricians which provide children’s palliative care (yes/no)?  
**No**
  - Emotional and psychological support for children and their families (yes/no)?  
**No**
  - Bereavement care - to families *before* a child under the age of 1 has died (yes/no)?  
**Yes**
  - Bereavement care - to families *after* a child under the age of 1 has died (yes/no)?  
**Yes**
  - Bereavement care - to families *before* a child or young person aged 1 – 25 has died (yes/no)?  
**Yes**
  - Bereavement care - to families *after* a child or young person aged 1 – 25 has died (yes/no)?  
**Yes**
  - Equipment - including services which provide wheelchairs and services to maintain and repair equipment (yes/no)?  
**No**
14. Do you commission the following services to children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions between the ages of 0 and 25 (yes/no)? If yes, please state how much you spent on them in 2016/17:
- short breaks (respite)  
**Claire House provides emergency respite**

- step-down care  
**Yes**
- end of life care.  
**Yes**

15. Are you implementing the NICE clinical guideline 'End of Life Care for Infants, Children and Young People: Planning and Management' (yes/no)? If yes, please tell us about the steps you are taking.

**Yes , Claire House is benchmarking against the NICE guidelines.**

16. Are you implementing 'Our Commitment to you for end of life care: The Government Response to the Review of Choice' for children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening condition? (yes/no). If yes, please tell us about the steps you are taking.

**Not specifically in regards to the guidance, however, Claire House provides a choice of place of care and place of death.**

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