

Ref: FOI/00054/CMICB  
12 September 2022

**Your Request:**

- 1) Please could you tell me whether you implement a 'same-sex' personal care policy for your social care service users? Or if you have moved to a 'gender based' policy?**
- 2) Does this policy apply to social care users who receive CHC funding provided by you, as well as those who receive council funded social care?**
- 3) Please provide proof of your policy.**
- 4) Do you instruct all care agencies in the area to comply with your policy or are each able to implement their own policy?**

**Our Response:**

1 - 4) Please note that packages of care provided to social care users are the responsibility of Local Authorities. Please find listed below the information held by each of the former CCG areas that now make up NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB in relation to commissioning of care packages for NHS Continuing Healthcare patients.

**Cheshire**

Packages of care are commissioned for patients whose health and social care needs are met via NHS Continuing Healthcare arrangements, there is no specific 'same-sex' or 'gender based' policy for this. The former Cheshire CCG area do not fund packages of social care or hold information on the policies used as this is the responsibility of the local authority. You may wish redirect your request for this information to Cheshire East Council who can be contacted via: [foi@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:foi@cheshireeast.gov.uk) and also Cheshire West & Chester Council who can be contacted via: [foi@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:foi@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

**Halton & Warrington**

Information not held. Commissioned care packages for people whose health and care needs are to be met are usually funded under NHS Continuing Healthcare arrangements. There is no 'same-sex' or 'gender based' policy. Care providers commissioned to deliver care, either in care homes or a person's own home, would work with the person or their representative to design a person-centered care package. This care package would be applicable to the individual needs and preferences and where safe essential healthcare can be delivered. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to Halton Borough Council who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via: [hdl@halton.gov.uk](mailto:hdl@halton.gov.uk) and Warrington Council via [foi@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:foi@warrington.gov.uk).

**Knowsley**

Information not held. All contracts arranged and sourced by the Local Authority. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to Knowsley Council who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via: [foi@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:foi@knowsley.gov.uk)

### **Liverpool**

The national framework for NHS Continuing Healthcare and NHS Funded Nursing Care is followed in terms of considerations for individuals in receipt of care packages funded, which is gender neutral. A link to the national framework is provided below: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-framework-for-nhs-continuing-healthcare-and-nhs-funded-nursing-care>

### **Sefton**

Packages of care are commissioned for patients whose health and social care needs are met via NHS Continuing Healthcare arrangements, there is no specific 'same-sex' or 'gender based' policy for this. The former Southport, Formby and South Sefton CCG areas do not fund packages of social care or hold information on the policies used as this is the responsibility of the local authority. You may wish redirect your request for this information to Sefton Council who can be contacted via: [ino.information@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:ino.information@sefton.gov.uk)

### **St Helens**

There is no specific policy around the gender of staff. The fundamental principles of safe recruitment of staff and service users can specify their preference, which will be incorporated within their care plan. When Tenders are being undertaken for bespoke packages of care, this can be included, if required. As care providers are all private businesses, each provider will have their own policy in place based on service user preference.

### **Wirral**

Information not held. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to Wirral Council who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via: [informationmanager@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:informationmanager@wirral.gov.uk)