

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 001194  
Date            2 June 2017

### ***Plan and Fund Palliative Care for Children and Young People Aged 0-25***

#### **Request:**

##### ***Children's palliative care***

"An active and total approach to care, from the point of diagnosis or recognition, throughout the child's life, death and beyond. It embraces physical, emotional, social and spiritual elements and focuses on the enhancement of quality of life for the child or young person and support for the family. It includes the management of symptoms, provision of short breaks and care through death and bereavement."

##### ***Life-limiting and life-threatening conditions***

"Life-limiting conditions are those for which there is no reasonable hope of cure and from which children will die. Some of these conditions cause slow deterioration over time rendering the child increasingly dependent on parents and carers. Life-threatening conditions are those for which curative treatment may be feasible but can fail, such as cancer."

#### **My questions**

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)  
[No](#)
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.  
[No](#)
3. Does your local sustainability and transformation plan set out what support will be available for children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions? (Yes/No).  
[No](#)

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 you assess this and how many children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions there are in your area.

No

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 clinical commissioning groups in a way which is consistent with the Children and Families Act 2014? (yes/no)

No

6. 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 (yes/no)? If yes, please tell us how.

No

7. Do you commission short breaks (respite) for 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 this in 2017/18.

Short Breaks provision is commissioned for children and young people with SEND, but not specifically for life-limiting and life-threatening conditions.

8. 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:

- 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?

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)?

No

- Bereavement care - to families *after* a child under the age of 1 has died (yes/no)?

No

- Bereavement care - to families *before* a child or young person aged 1 – 25 has died (yes/no)?

No

- Bereavement care - to families *after* a child or young person aged 1 – 25 has died (yes/no)?  
No
  - Equipment (yes/no)?  
No
9. 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.
- Voluntary sector children's palliative care services (including children's hospice services) (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)?  
No
  - Bereavement care - to families *after* a child under the age of 1 has died (yes/no)?  
No
  - Bereavement care - to families *before* a child or young person aged 1 – 25 has died (yes/no)?  
No
  - Bereavement care - to families *after* a child or young person aged 1 – 25 has died (yes/no)?  
No
  - Equipment (yes/no)?  
No

In respect of your above questions, only a partial response is possible as the Council does not commission palliative care for children and young people.

Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

I can advise you that this information would be held by Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).