

Ref: CCG July 020 2016

Corporate Services
NHS Liverpool Clinical Commissioning Group
The Department
Lewis's Building
Renshaw Street
Liverpool
L1 2SA

Email: foi@liverpoolccg.nhs.uk

8th August 2016,

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request that we received on 29th July 2016, with regards to any provisions for patient bereavement.

Request/**Response**

I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

1. Have you commissioned any provisions within your local area for any patient who has suffered bereavement?

Yes

2. Do you offer any bereavement counselling?

Yes

3. If yes who is commissioned to provide that counselling and what type of counselling is available?

Liverpool CCG makes a grant contribution to Liverpool Bereavement Service which covers some running costs of the service. At present the service is delivered and managed on a voluntary basis. It does not count as contracted activity as part of our statutory offer (IAPT) but contributes considerably in kind on the strength of our grant (particularly in volunteering and income generation towards its mission).

***Liverpool Bereavement Service - <http://liverpoolbereavement.com/> for details
Several other 3rd sector providers provide more general counselling services.***

We also commission bereavement support for children, young people and families, Liverpool CCG have invested in Child Bereavement UK who provide excellent on line resources and a support service via their Runcorn based office.

We have also commissioned Liverpool School Improvement to produce information and resources – A Whole School Approach to Supporting Loss, Separation and Bereavement. This includes getting schools to adopt a bereavement policy, and to train 30+ schools to act as mentors across the school system to support each other with any issues around bereavement, separation and loss.

4. What is the current waiting time for access to bereavement counselling for those patients who have experienced the loss of a child at the following stages?

- i) Miscarriage
- ii) Abortion due to fetal abnormality
- iii) Stillbirth
- IV) Neonatal Death
- v) SIDS
- vi) ny other loss of a child

At the last grant review waiting times were 3-4 weeks from referral to assessment and a further 4 weeks from assessment to first counselling session. The service does not report to us in the granular detail of the FOI request, but may keep more detailed data for their own records.

3. Is bereavement counselling offered to siblings and wider family members e.g. grandparents?

Yes

4. How much does your CCG spend on back office and administrative support?

Non

ii. Does this include any external providers?

N/A

5. If the answer to e is yes, who have you commissioned to do this work and could you list any third sector organisations?

Please see response to Q3

We wish to take this opportunity to inform you that a formal complaints and internal review procedure is available to applicants who are unhappy with responses provided to FOI requests. You can formally request an internal review within a reasonable period of time (2 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you are not satisfied with the decision of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a further review of that decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure in the first instance.

The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Should you require any further information, clarification regarding this response or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact us to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

**Customer Relations Lead
NHS Liverpool CCG**