

## Freedom of Information request 363-18

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### Request

In light of the above information I would like to ask you to provide:

- 1) Copies of any policies that the Trust has on the prevention of FASD, and on the diagnosis and post-diagnostic care pathway for patients with an FASD. Also your policy on the training of Trust personnel to manage patients with FASD.
- 2) Any information you hold on services your Trust provided for FASD for
  - a. prevention education following the 2016 Chief Medical Officers' guidelines that the safest course is not to drink while pregnant or attempting to become pregnant;
  - b. diagnosis for both children and adults;
  - c. post-diagnostic care in the financial years beginning 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.
- 3) Information on the number of Doctors in your Trust who currently provide diagnostic and/or post-diagnostic services for FASD? Please provide their names and posts. Whether your Trust employs specifically trained professionals, including but not limited to nurses, psychologists, occupational therapists and speech and language therapists, to provide specialised services for patients on the FASD spectrum? If so, in what specialties, and how many? Please provide their names and posts.
- 4) Information on training provided to personnel in your Trust on FASD, or provided by others and accessed by your personnel.
- 5) Information you hold on whether your Trust sends patients for FASD diagnosis to the National FASD Clinic in Surrey (<https://www.fasdclinic.com/>)? Did you refer any patients to the National FASD Clinic in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017, and in 2018, and if so, how many in each year?
- 6) What was your budget for services for FASD in each financial year since that starting in 2013 and including the current financial year?
- 7) Please provide copies of any agreed plans you have to expand the budget or services in coming years.

### Response

- 1) NHS Borders does not have a current policy on diagnosis as we are awaiting the publication of the SIGN Guideline. A multi disciplinary training day took place in 2017.
- 2) Please find below information held on:
  - a) Prevention Education:

The attached leaflet is given to all pregnant women by midwives about FASD:



FASD Patient  
Leaflet.pdf

b) & c) Diagnosis and Post Diagnosis:

Screening is carried out routinely and an alcohol brief intervention performed if criteria are met. Please see link which gives information on FASD, Strategies not solutions to aid in the care for children and youth affected for FASD.

[www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fasd/documents/fas\\_guidelines\\_accessible.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fasd/documents/fas_guidelines_accessible.pdf)

3) There are no specialised services. Children would be looked after within our usual neuro developmental pathways provided by 7 Consultant Paediatricians:

- Dr Clare Irving – Consultant Paediatrician and Clinical Director
- Dr Andy Duncan – Consultant Paediatrician
- Dr Clare Ketteridge – Consultant Paediatrician
- Dr John Stephen – Consultant Paediatrician
- Dr Nwe Soe – Consultant Paediatrician
- Dr Graeme Eunson – Consultant Paediatrician
- Dr Anna Dall – Consultant Paediatrician

There are no additional specialised trained professionals. The consultants are supported by AHPs as required with onward referral into CAMHS services if indicated.

4) Please find information below on training provided on FASD within NHS Borders:

NHS Borders held a recent training day organised by the Borders Drugs and Alcohol Partnership:

- There are 2 further sessions planned for September 2018.
- 1 session is fully subscribed, a waiting list is held for anyone interested
- Course provided for FASD for Professionals held on the 7 June 2017 this brought national speakers to Borders.
- Borders Alcohol and Drugs Partnership runs FASD briefing sessions as part of their workforce development training calendar.
- Working with affected children sessions have been offered to educate staff.
- Midwives have been trained in alcohol screening and brief interventions.

5) NHS Borders do not hold any data regarding referrals to the National FASD centre, therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.

6) NHS Borders does not hold a separate budget for FASD, this client group receives care within our existing services. Therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A this data is not held.

7) No budget is allocated to FASD and we do not have a specialist service, all care is provided within existing children's services.

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or [foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk).

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **363-18** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within

six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.