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Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
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Our Ref: ID 520

Date: 18th April 2013

Ms Sarah McCulloch
sarahmcculloch@gmail.com

Dear Ms McCulloch,

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Cluster Chief Executive, Moira Dumma has asked me to respond to you on her behalf.

You Asked for:

- 1) **How many adults you have with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder (any, although if there are separate statistics for Asperger's, HFA, LFA, they would be appreciated) in your area;**

Unfortunately, neither Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group, nor its practices, holds this information.

Please find below a link to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment which contains statistics but no specific numbers.

<http://info.wirral.nhs.uk/ourjsna/wirral2009-10/learningdisabilities/>

- 2) **How many children;**

Unfortunately, neither Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group, nor its practices, holds this information.

Please find below a link to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment which contains statistics but no specific numbers.

<http://info.wirral.nhs.uk/ourjsna/wirral2009-10/learningdisabilities/>

- 3) **What diagnostic services are available to a) adults and b) children;**

Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group commission an ASD diagnosis service from Cheshire & Wirral Partnership Trust for adults.

Services that are available for diagnosing ASD for children are:

GP - referrals are usually received from Health Visitors and School Nurses who have done initial developmental screening.

CAMHS - these are usually older children with behavioural or emotional difficulties.
Community Child Health Paediatricians who have received referrals from GPs.

4) What agencies or teams you have that work with autistic people, provide support/services, strategise, etc.

Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group do not have any agencies or teams within the CCG, but would signpost patients to community support as appropriate, for instance, Wirral Autistic Society.

5) An email address/website for each of these agencies or teams where possible.

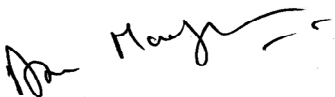
Not Applicable

6) What the typical process should be for an adult in your area first asking their GP for an assessment for autistic spectrum disorder to receiving a diagnosis/support.

A patient would contact their GP who would make a referral for diagnosis using the existing referral protocol. The referral is reviewed by the Health Treatment Panel within the Commissioning Support Unit, who will forward referral to Cheshire & Wirral Partnership Trust (provider) for diagnosis if referral meets criteria. Cheshire & Wirral Partnership Trust would contact patient to arrange a diagnosis appointment.

I hope this sufficiently answers your enquiry but please do not hesitate to contact Dean Bennett, contact details at the top of the letter, should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely



Dr Abhi Mantgani
Chief Clinical Officer
NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group