

Date: 29 April 2019

Re: Freedom of Information Request
Ref: 90- 2019

Thank you for your email dated 1st April 2019 requesting information relating to Cheshire and Merseyside Cancer Alliance's implementation of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Blood Cancer report titled 'The 'Hidden' Cancer – The need to improve blood cancer care.

The information that you require is as follows:

1. **Please can you confirm or deny whether your organisation has carried out any work between January 2018 and April 2019 to implement the following recommendation set out by the APPG on Blood Cancer's report:**
Cancer Alliances should reduce fragmentation between different stages of care for blood cancer patients by bridging recognised gaps between oncology and haematology departments, for example, and between primary and secondary care.

Yes

- b. **If confirmed, please provide information setting out the scope and progress of the work undertaken in this area.**

In Cheshire and Merseyside the haematology and solid tumour oncology chemotherapy services are co-located at a number of Trusts and clinicians from both specialties work closely together in provision of planned and acute services.

In 2017/18, Haemato-oncology services in Liverpool became fully integrated with the solid tumour oncology services offered by The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre (CCC) and from late 2020 these services will be co-located in a state of the art new build hospital in central Liverpool.

There will also be an expansion of the CCC community service to include HO allowing more patients to access treatments from

home. Much of this preparation work has been undertaken since January 2018 to date.

2. Please can you confirm or deny whether your organisation has carried out any work between January 2018 and April 2019 to implement the following recommendation set out by the APPG on Blood Cancer's report:
Cancer Alliances should look for more opportunities to involve blood cancer patients and charities in the provision of care and support.

Yes

- b. If confirmed, please provide information setting out the scope and progress of the work undertaken in this area.

The Cancer alliance has a full time Service User Involvement (SUI) Manager. The SUI Manager has organised several events aimed for people affected by cancer, illustrating the various opportunities for them to become involved in our Programme.

At the last event in March 2019, 20 new service users became registered participants. Not all of these have indicated which cancer type they have been most affected by, but we do know that some of them have been diagnosed or are caring for a person with blood cancer. These registered service users will be instrumental in the development of our personalised care and support strategy in 2019/20.

Our Haematology Clinical Quality Group has service user representatives on its membership and this group acts as our reference group for the development of regional guidelines and policies.

In 2019/20 we will also be exploring the use of Cancer Support Workers (SW) to enable supported self-management for a cohort of low complexity Haemato-oncology patients. These SWs will work directly with patients to design follow up pathways that meet their needs.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address provided below.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for this to be investigated internally.

If you are dissatisfied with the information you have received, you have the right to ask for an internal review.

Both processes will be handled in accordance with our Trust's Freedom of Information Policy and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Internal investigation and internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Freedom of Information Review, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust, Clatterbridge Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 4JY

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal investigation/review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

In order for us to ensure customer satisfaction and to monitor compliance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we would be grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete a short feedback form via the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H39RFMM>