Date: Wednesday, 15th March 2023
Our Ref: MB/CM FOI 5617

Sid Watkins Building
Lower Lane
Fazakerley
Liverpool L9 7BB
Tel: 01515253611
Fax: 01515295500
Direct Line: 01515563038

Re: Freedom of Information Request FOI 5617

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 28th February 2023.
Your request was as follows:

Section 1: Commissioning and care planning

1. (a) Within the past year, have you reviewed or found opportunities for improvement in pathways and care for headache and migraine?

1. (b) (i) If yes, what did this review find?

1. (b) (ii) If no, what has prevented this so far?

1. (c) Do you have any plans to implement the findings of the optimum clinical pathway for adults for Headache & facial pain published by the National Neurosciences Advisory Group (NNAG) in February 2023?

2. (a) Have you reviewed the migraine needs of your local population (e.g. numbers of people living with migraine who are diagnosed and not yet diagnosed) and planned services to meet these needs (e.g. by offering opportunities for training in migraine management to GPs, as well as adequate access to secondary and tertiary specialists)

2. (b) If not, are there plans to do so?

Section 2: Specialist headache clinics

3. (a) Do you have a specialist headache clinic in your Trust?

3. (b) (i) If yes, please give details.

3. (b) (ii) If no, please give details of the clinic you would refer out to.

4. (a) How many people did you support through your specialist headache clinics in 2021?

4. (b) How many people did you support through your specialist headache clinics in 2022?

5. What is the average waiting time from GP referral to first appointment at the specialist headache clinics in your Trust

(current or for when you last had data)?

6. How many full time equivalent (FTE) headache specialist doctors are employed by your Trust (in secondary care or GPs with an extended role)?

7. How many FTE headache specialist nurses are employed by your Trust?

8. (a) Do you have plans in 2023/24 to increase headache specialist services?

8. (b) If yes, please give details.

Section 3: Access to Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide (CGRP) medication

9. (a) Can eligible patients currently access Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide (CGRP) medications through your Board/Trust area?

9. (b) (i) If yes, how many people are accessing CGRP medication through your Board/Trust area

9. (b) (ii) If yes, which of the following CGRP medications can they access: Ajovy/fremanezumab, Emgality/galcanezumab, Vyepti/eptinezumab, or Aimovig/erenumab.

9. (b) (iii) If yes, what is the current waiting time to access a prescribing specialist?

9. (b) (iv) If yes, is the administration of CGRP treatments monitored by a headache specialist?

9. (b) (v) If yes, is the administration of CGRP treatments subject to any additional restrictions or criteria?

9. (c) If no, do you refer and fund it out of area? Please give details.

Section 4: Training

10. (a) Do you have any education or training programmes with GPs or pharmacists in your area on migraine? (E.g. regarding GP/pharmacy education, patient management in the community, patient information or referral pathways)

10. (b) If yes, or if any are planned, please give details.

10. (c) If no, please explain any reasons (e.g. budgets / other priorities / other organisations' responsibility)

Section 5: Inequalities

11. (a) Are you aware of local inequalities of access to headache specialist services amongst any groups (e.g. by gender, ethnicity, disability, socio-economic groups)?

11. (b) If yes, please give details of the inequalities and any work you are doing or planning to address this.

Please see attached.

Please see our response above in blue.

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. 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 the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

Please remember to quote the reference number, FOI 5617 in any future communications.

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

Yours sincerely

Mike Burns

Mr. Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information