

Ref: FOI/00447/CMICB
11 July 2023

Dear,

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
Children's Palliative Care Service Specification**

Thank you for your information request indicated in bold below, which has now been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB). I am able to provide you with the following information and responses.

Please note from 01 July 2022, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) were disestablished, and their statutory functions and responsibilities inherited by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB.

Your Request:

- 1) Do you have a children's palliative care service specification? (Yes/No).
If so, please attach a copy to your response to this request.**
- 2) Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition and their parents or carers should have opportunities to be involved in developing an advance care plan? (Yes/No)**
- 3) Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition should have a named medical specialist who leads and coordinates their care? (Yes/No)**
- 4) Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition and their parents or carers should be given information about emotional and psychological support, including how to access it? (Yes/No)**
- 5) Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition should be cared for by a multidisciplinary team that includes members of the specialist paediatric palliative care team? (Yes/No)**
- 6) Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that parents or carers of infants, children and young people approaching the end of life should be offered support for grief and loss when their child is nearing the end of their life and after their death? (Yes/No)**

7) Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people approaching the end of life and being cared for at home should have 24-hour access to both children's nursing care and advice from a consultant in paediatric palliative care? (Yes/No)

8) Do you have a children's palliative care service specification which states that infants, children and young people with a life-limiting condition and their families should have access regular short breaks for respite? (Yes/No)

Our Response:

1) Yes. NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB has adopted the NHS England Specialist Palliative & End of Life Care Service Specification, alongside our own locally developed children's hospice provider specifications, which are listed below and enclosed:

- *NHS England Specialist Palliative & End of Life Care Services – Children & Young People Service Specification*
- *NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB – Children's Emergency Respite Service Specification.*
- *NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB – Claire House Rapid Response Service Specification.*

2 – 8) Yes.

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

We also wish to take this opportunity to inform you that, where you are not satisfied with the response to your request for information, a formal complaints and internal review process is available.

This can be formally requested by emailing foi@cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk and must be done within a reasonable time period (3 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you remain dissatisfied with our review under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at;

*The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk*

Should you need any further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us quoting the above FOI reference.

*Enc: NHSE Specialist Palliative & End of Life Care Services – Children & Young People Service Specification.
NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB – Children’s Emergency Respite Service Specification.
NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB – Claire House Rapid Response Service Specification.*