Ref: FOI 2013/1561  
Date Received: 26/03/2013  
Response Due: 25/04/2013  

24th April 2013

Dear ,

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

We are now pleased to respond to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

1. I would also like any estimate your trust has about the cost of these admissions and how this is calculated.

The information provided is based on a 6 monthly report requested by our, Alcohol Specialist Nurse to the Business Intelligence Team. The information provided is based on patients admitted with one or several of the Diagnostic Codes listed.

The Income (not Costs) is based on the HRG Code/Tariff derived from each patients coding of Diagnosis and Procedures per Discharge.

2. I would like information for each of the last five years (if your information is recorded in financial years, please provide these inclusive of 2012/13 where possible).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>£3,024,757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>£3,001,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>£2,927,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Sept 2012</td>
<td>£1,623,179</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. If the trust has put any specific plans in place to manage alcohol-related admissions to accident and emergency, please provide details.

The Alcohol nurse service is commissioned by Wigan CCG and DAAT (Drug alcohol and action team). Principal aim of the service is to reduce the numbers of people presenting to and being admitted to RAEI with alcohol and drug related conditions. The service at WWL is just 1 part of the Borough wide Wigan alcohol strategy 2013 - 2016 to tackle alcohol related harm in the borough.

- 3 alcohol nurses - covering a 7 day service
Aims and objectives

- To reduce drug and alcohol related presentations & re-presentations to AE
- To reduce drug and alcohol related admissions and readmissions
- To reduce costs associated with drug and alcohol related admissions
- To reduce the length of stay for patients admitted with drug and alcohol related conditions
- To improve the quality of care provided to patients admitted with drug and alcohol related conditions
- To reduce hospital based alcohol detoxifications
- Reduce inequalities and improve access to community services
- Encourage engagement with community based recovery services

Achieving the objectives

- Introduction of an alcohol screening tool within the A&E department (AUDITC tool) is used. All patients attending A&E aged 16yrs and over are asked about their alcohol use. The aim of the screening is to improve the identification of individuals presenting to hospital who may be drinking to increasing / higher risk levels and provide opportunistic interventions with an aim of reducing alcohol related harm. The alcohol nurse team run extended alcohol brief advice clinics within A&E, so that patients who present to A&E overnight can be brought back to a clinic if identified as drinking to increasing / higher risk levels

- Mainstreaming of alcohol identification and brief advice training for staff working within acute ward areas and A&E - including national / local campaign leaflets

- Revision of the trusts - management of alcohol withdrawal policy to incorporate recommendations in NICE guidance produced 2010 / 2011. Improvement in pharmacotherapy of alcohol withdrawal. Admission pathway developed within the A&E with the aim being to prevent inappropriate alcohol related admissions

- Active case management project - partnership work between Greater Manchester West, WWL NHS and Wigan Council. Multi agency case management approach to provide more intense support to patients who are regularly attending AE with alcohol related admissions.

I trust that this information answers your original request, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 256335. If we do not hear from you within 28 days we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Foster
Chief Executive

Chairman: Les Higgins
Chief Executive: Andrew Foster CBE
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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF