

Dear Requester

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST - RESPONSE**  
**FOI Reference: OPTUM FOI 300-650 – SL CCG**

I refer to your email received on 3 July 2019. I can confirm on behalf of NHS South Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) supported by Optum Commissioning Support Services, and in accordance with S.1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each element of your request is detailed below:

**REQUEST & RESPONSE**

- 1) What infection control support do you provide to general practice - be it guidance, resources, auditing?  
**RESPONSE:** All Practices offering level 1-3 procedures are inspected by the Health Protection team every 3 years and certification is awarded. As part of the Practice Quality Visit Assurance Programme, all Practices receive an annual visit which IP&C compliance is considered, this is in line with the 10 criteria set out in the Hygiene Code. The CCG host a link practitioner group which meets quarterly and is conducted over four sites each quarter, to give everyone a chance to attend. The meetings have an educational element and since October, the content has been the same for each of the four group areas and is focused on current issues identified by the Health Protection Nurse in the weeks leading into the first meeting of the quarter (e.g. this quarter has been focused on CPE and Measles). This is also a chance for the links to network and discuss any issues they have identified in their Practices. The links do their own hand hygiene audits but the Health Protection Function support them with this, through use of the UV light box and ideas for use in training. A Practice Nurse Competency Pack is also being developed.
  
- 2) Do you currently commission any provider to support general practice with infection control?
  - i) If yes, please give provider name  
**RESPONSE:** No.
  - ii) If no, how do practices in your area ensure their compliance with infection control guidance and best practice?  
**RESPONSE:** As response to Q1

3) Have you ever commissioned a provider to support general practices in your area with infection control?

**RESPONSE:** No.

If yes:

i) Please name the provider

**RESPONSE:** Not applicable.

ii) When was this service commissioned?

**RESPONSE:** Not applicable.

iii) When did this service end or is it still running?

**RESPONSE:** Not applicable.

iv) What happened to the funding at the end of this service?

**RESPONSE:** Not applicable.

4) Does the CCG have any plans to commission any service in the future to support general practice with infection control requirements?

**RESPONSE:** No.

I trust that this answers your queries with the information we currently hold, but if we can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Team.

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

Optum Health Systems Support  
FOI TEAM  
South Kesteven District Council Offices  
St. Peter's Hill  
Grantham  
NG31 6PZ

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 provided by the CCGs.

The Information Commissioner's contact details can be found here:

<https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

*All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from the CCG. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.*

Yours faithfully

**FOI Team**  
**On behalf of NHS South Lincolnshire CCG**