



Reference: RFI 1710064

Request:

I am writing to make a Freedom of Information request to North Tyneside Council on behalf of the Paediatric Continence Forum (PCF), a group of health professionals, patient representatives and companies that campaign to raise awareness of childhood bladder and bowel (continence) problems. Since the transfer of commissioning responsibility for school nurses from central to local government in 2015, many local authorities have withdrawn continence from the remit of school nurses (mostly at Level/Tier 1: prevention and first line assessment and treatment of continence problems). To assess the impact of this, could you please answer the following questions:

1. Does your local authority provide a dedicated continence clinic? Yes this is provided through the school nursing service which part of the 0-19 Children's Public Health Service.
If you answered no, please go to question 5.
2. Which of the following is covered by the dedicated continence clinic:
 - a. Bedwetting YES
 - b. Daytime wetting No
 - c. Toilet training No
 - d. Constipation/soiling No
 - e. Product supply for paediatric continence problems No
3. How many hours a week does the clinic run? 4 hours
4. Is the amount of time dedicated to service provision in this clinic:
 - a. Determined by the number of children and young people (from birth to 18 years) visiting each week? Yes
 - b. Regulated in another manner? Please explain.
5. Is continence a listed responsibility provided by your local authority area for any of the following professions:
 - a. School nurses Yes
 - b. Health visitors Not specifically
 - c. Other healthcare professionals Nursery nurses, staff nurses.
6. If you answered yes to any of the professions listed in question 5 could you please tell us:
 - a. How many children and young people with continence problems do each of these professionals have responsibility for? There are 62 children in North Tyneside currently being supported with enuresis by this service.
 - b. How many children and young people are on the waiting list for this service, and how long has the person currently at the top of the list had to wait? 14 children are on waiting list but none of them will wait more than 2 weeks to be seen, this is the maximum waiting time.
7. If you answered no to any of the professions listed in question 5, was there a decision taken to remove continence from the listed responsibilities of any of these professionals and, if so, when did this happen? No
8. Do you have any future plans to:
 - a. commission new paediatric continence provision? No
 - b. review the existing paediatric continence provision? No

If so, please provide details.
9. Are you aware of the [NICE-accredited Paediatric Continence Commissioning Guide](#)?
 - a. If so, do the services commissioned in your LA use it? Yes

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