

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4932

**Please reply to:**  
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### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to Support for secondary breast cancer patients.

*You asked:*

*Holistic Needs Assessments (HNAs)*

*1) Do patients with secondary breast cancer have a Holistic Needs Assessment (HNA), used to plan their care, conducted at the point of diagnosis (of their secondary breast cancer) and/or as their treatment changes?*

*2) If yes, do the HNAs cover the following areas?*

*Access to a Clinical Nurse Specialist*

*3) How many people with secondary breast cancer are currently under the care of your Trust?*

*4) Do all patients with secondary breast cancer under the care of your Trust have access to a Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) with the appropriate skills, knowledge and experience of secondary breast cancer? (yes/no)*

*5) If yes, do these nurses:*

*a) Provide care to secondary breast cancer patients only? (yes/no)*

*b) Provide care to both primary and secondary breast cancer patients? (yes/no)*

*6) If yes, please provide the number of CNS posts that fall under each of these categories (as applicable):*

*a) CNSs that provide care to secondary breast cancer patients only*

*b) CNSs that provide care to both primary and secondary breast cancer patients*

*7) If there are CNS posts within your Trust that provide care to both primary and secondary breast cancer patients, please tell us if they:*

*a) Work in a combined role (where the care of both primary and secondary breast cancer patients is part of their formal job description) (yes/no)*

*b) Work across both areas but their formal job description only covers primary breast cancer patients (yes/no)*

*Information and referrals*

8) *At diagnosis and/or during the time they are under the care of your Trust, are patients with secondary breast cancer provided with the following information and/or referred to the following services?*

*Treatment Summaries*

9) *Do patients with secondary breast cancer receive a Treatment Summary\* at the end of each significant phase of treatment? (yes/no)*

*Access to Health and Wellbeing Events*

10) *Does your Trust offer a Health and Wellbeing event\* suitable for patients with secondary breast cancer? (yes/no)*

Trust response:

We understand that you have received this information directly from the Trust.

In order to comply with the Freedom of Information Act please find a copy of the response below.

### **Holistic Needs Assessments (HNAs)**

1. We did have HNA clinics roughly six weeks after their diagnosis. Patients' were invited and were sent a preparatory proforma for them to complete and bring to the consultation as a prompt for what they wanted to discuss. But as they are seen regularly in the Macmillan Nurse Clinician Secondary Breast Cancer clinics for review of their treatment many of their HNA issues are addressed. As a result of this, although invited most patients would decline noting "they would discuss with their nurse clinician and support worker when they wanted to". Clinical time for HNA has now been reinvested back into the Secondary Breast Cancer Service by increasing dual consultations with the Nurse Clinician and Oncology Consultants.
- 2) Please see above.

### **Access to a Clinical Nurse Specialist**

- 3) 183
- 4) There are 2 key workers specifically for SBC

Macmillan Nurse Clinician

Macmillan Cancer Support worker whose role is shared between SBC and advanced Colorectal cancer

- 5) If **yes**, do these nurses:
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
- 6) Early Breast Cancer 4.4 WTE

- a) Nurse Clinician 1 WTE
- b) NO
- 7) Not applicable.

**Information and referrals**

8)

- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes

However, local palliative care services are stretched and therefore patients' living well for a long time may well be discharged and then require repeat referral

**Treatment Summaries**

- 9) Yes in the form of a detailed clinic letter

**Access to Health and Wellbeing Events**

- 10) LWSBC service funded by local charity Breast Cancer Kent