

Our ref: FOI ID 5499

24 August 2015

southseftonccg.foi@nhs.net

NHS South Sefton CCG

Merton House

Stanley Road

Bootle

Merseyside

L20 3DL

Tel: 0151 247 7000

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding current GP out of hours (OOH) services for NHS South Sefton CCG.

Request/[Response](#):

Re: GP out of hours (OOH) services:

1. Is your GP OOH service required or recommended to meet a minimum staffing level?

[Yes](#)

2. If so, what is the requirement or recommendation?

The CCGs wish to see continuous GP cover in the following sites where face to face consultations will occur, listed in Table 1, and for the hours shown in Table 1. A minimum of 1 GP at all times and 15 minute appointments, including completion of clinical record and necessary data input".

GP Out of Hours – Table 1

	Mon – Fri	W/E and BH
Litherland NHS Treatment Centre	18.30 – 23.00	08.00 – 23.00
Southport District General Hospital	19.00 – 23.00	08.00 – 23.00
Philips Lane Formby	23.00 – 0800	23.00 – 08.00

The Provider must also be able to supplement GP cover at times of expected pressure e.g., Bank Holidays.

Current planning guidance assumes that providers should plan for at least a minimum 15% surge in patient demand, this may be higher at peak times e.g. between Christmas and New Year.

3. Is this staffing level a contractual requirement?

Yes

4. On how many occasions per month for the past 6 months has your GP OOH provider failed to meet that minimum staffing requirement/recommendation?

The amount of resource required to undertake a review of 6 months rota activity is excessive and would be detrimental to the management of the service, taking capacity directly away from managing the current GP rota. As such we believe it falls under a section 12 time/cost limit exemption details therefore relate to the last 2 months.

The answer to this question is provided in more detail in Q5.

5. Please detail for each occasion how far below the required/recommended staffing level the service was?

June 15

In June there were 11 unfilled shifts over the month equal to a vacancy rate of 3.6%.

July 15

Over the month there were 38 unfilled shifts over 15 dates equal to a vacancy rate of 11.7%.

Since 20 July to date, incorporating the weekend 8-9 August, the vacancy rate has reduced to 3.0%.

6. What sanctions have been applied to the GP OOH provider in the past 6 months due to failure to meet a minimum staffing level?

None, the minimum standard has not been breached

Note - if answering questions 3 or 4 falls under a section 12 time/cost limit exemption, please provide details for the last 2 months, or for the last 1 month.