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Our Ref: 45753

22 March 2018

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Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding Cataract surgery referrals and policy within NHS South Sefton CCG.

Request/Response:

1.   Please state the total number of referrals from primary care to Ophthalmology for cataract surgery (all types) in A) 2016, B) 2017 and C) 2018 to date.
If it is not possible to provide data specifically regarding cataract surgery referrals then please provide data for all Ophthalmology referrals for A, B and C.

Please see Appendix 1

2.   A) Has the CCG updated its eligibility guidelines and/or referrals policy for cataract surgery since 04/08/17?

The eligibility criteria have not been changed since the Policy was introduced at the end of 2016. We are currently strengthening the process to be followed in respect of second eyes which will be published on our website when finalised.

For information please see the link below for our commissioning policy

http://www.southseftonccg.nhs.uk/media/1175/final-south-sefton-ccg-commissioning-policy-13052015.pdf

B)   If yes, please provide a link to the relevant website or attach the relevant document, stating page number where applicable.

Not applicable.

Please note - I submitted a request for similar-sounding information on 04/08/17 - however, this is a new and separate request with two key differences:
A)   I am requesting data from calendar years, not financial years
B)   I am requesting only the latest referral guidelines/policies which have been updated since my last request.
Therefore, please treat this as a new and separate request.

Chair: Dr Andrew Mimnagh
Chief Officer: Fiona Taylor

If it is not possible to provide all the information requested due to the request exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please answer these questions as fully as is possible within the time limits. Alternatively, please advise me as to how this request can be broken down to comply.