

**Ref: CCG 40035**

Corporate Services  
NHS Liverpool Clinical Commissioning Group  
The Department  
Lewis's Building  
Renshaw Street  
Liverpool  
L1 2SA

Email: [foi@liverpoolccg.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@liverpoolccg.nhs.uk)

14<sup>th</sup> August 2017,

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request that we received on 7<sup>th</sup> August with regards to referrals from primary care.

Request/**Response**

1. Please state the total number of orthopaedic referrals from primary care in:

**These figures are number GP referred 1<sup>st</sup> outpatient appointments as an approximat for number of GP referrals\*:**

A) 2015/16 - **9048**

B) 2016/17- **8569**

2. Please state the total number of referrals from primary care for cataract treatment in:

**These figures are number GP referred cataract procedures as a proxy for referrals for cataract treatment:**

A) 2015/16 - **2847**

B) 2016/17- **2737**

**\*Please note: As all our GP referrals go through MCAS (Musculo-skeletal Clinical Assessment Service) who triage and refer on to T & O as appropriate, we are unable to say if these figures give an accurate picture of GP referrals across Liverpool.**

3. A) What are the current eligibility guidelines/criteria for referrals for orthopaedic procedures?  
B) When were these current guidelines introduced?

**In response to question 3A and B, details are within the current commissioning policy. The link for this is provided below; you will find the appropriate information within.**

**Where a procedure is not listed, it means there are no eligibility criteria as the commissioning policy is still currently under review.**

<http://www.liverpoolccg.nhs.uk/media/1735/final-liverpool-ccg-commissioning-policy-13-05-2015-for-website.pdf>.

4. A) What are the current eligibility guidelines/criteria for referrals for cataract treatment?

B) When were these current guidelines introduced?

**Please find attached link as used for question 3A and B. See section 11.5 within the document to access the appropriate information for question 4. As mentioned before, this policy is still under review.**

We wish to take this opportunity to inform you that a formal complaints and internal review procedure is available to applicants who are unhappy with responses provided to FOI requests. You can formally request an internal review within a reasonable period of time (2 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you are not satisfied with the decision of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a further review of that decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure in the first instance.

The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
[www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Should you require any further information, clarification regarding this response or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact us to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

**Customer Relations Lead  
NHS Liverpool CCG**