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**Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which was received into this office on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

**You asked for information regarding CCG finances, schemes to manage repeat prescriptions and medicines waste.**

1. From the most recent assessment, is the CCG in financial surplus, or deficit? And by how much?

**Information with regards to NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG) financial position can be found within the agenda and papers of the Governing Body meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016. I have included a link below to the appropriate section of the website:**

**<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/Downloads/Governing%20Body/WCCGGoverningBodyAgendaandpapersPUBLICmeeting06092016.pdf>**

2. From the most recent assessment, what is the value of medicines wastage in the CCG annually?

**Unfortunately NHS Wirral CCG does not hold this information.**

3. Is the CCG considering implementing, or has it implemented, a scheme to direct patients to order repeat prescriptions directly from their GPs?

**NHS Wirral CCG is currently looking to adopt a number of measures to reduce waste associated with repeat prescriptions. This includes a publicity campaign targeting members of the public, pharmacies and clinicians. A protocol will also be shared with pharmacies in an attempt to manage repeat prescribing.**

4. Is the CCG considering implementing, or has it implemented, a scheme to stop community pharmacies from ordering repeat prescriptions on behalf of patients?

**NHS Wirral CCG has considered a policy whereby all repeat ordering via pharmacies is stopped and replaced by GP only ordering, however, it was agreed that the publicity campaign and protocol would be trialled first.**

5. If the CCG has considered, or is implementing, either or both schemes, what is the value of the predicted or achieved savings from reduced medicines wastage?

**There is a potential saving on the current prescribing budget of between 2-10%**

6. If the CCG has considered, or is implementing, either or both schemes, is there an evaluation of the consequences for a) patients? b) GPs? C) pharmacists?

**NHS Wirral CCG will review best practice and consider additional options for 2017/18. This is something that may be done across Cheshire & Wirral areas and an evaluation process will follow.**

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