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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 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

**You asked for information on GP referrals:**

- Does the CCG operate or commission, a referral management centre that assesses referrals by local GPs?
- If yes, when was this introduced?
- Which organisation(s) operates the referral management centre for the CCG?
- Please list the relevant branches of medicine that fall under the referral management centre's remit e.g. cardiology, gastroenterology, palliative care etc.
- How much did the CCG spend on referral management centres for GP referrals in the past three financial years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16)? Please break down by month
- Does the CCG track or estimate savings made from using a referral management scheme? If yes, please give actual (or estimated) savings for past three financial years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16)
- How many GP referrals did the CCG process over the past three financial years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16)? Please break down by month
- Over the past three financial years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16) how many referrals from GPs were rejected? (approx. if necessary) Please break down by month
- For this time period please state how many referrals were returned for the following reasons:
  - i.) Information missing in the referral
  - ii.) Not meeting criteria for commissioning policies and clinical referral guidelines
  - iii.) A specialist has reviewed the referral and advised the GP on how to treat the patient or has requested other investigations should be carried out ahead of a referral
  - iv.) Any other reason

*Please state any other reasons for rejecting a referral and say how many rejections there were of each type*

- For the past three financial years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16) how many complaints has the CCG received about its referral process?

**Our Response:**

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) does not operate or commission a referral management centre.

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