

Direct Line: 0151 643 5334
Email: foirequests.nhs.wirralccg@nhs.net

Date: 6th November 2014

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
Old Market House Hamilton Street
Birkenhead
Wirral
CH41 5AL
Tel: 0151 651 0011

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 the 26th October 2014.

You Asked for:

- 1) How many GP practices in Wirral have no patients groups – that's both those in the Peninsula Consortium and those in the combination of all three.**

The decision to hold a patient group is ultimately a GP practices responsibility therefore I would advise for you to contact the GP Practices direct. I have included the link below to the list of our GP Practices:

<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/About%20Us/our-practices.htm>

- 2) I presume the GP practices contribute to the CCG even if they don't have a patients group. Is that right?**

Yes, all GP practices on Wirral are members of the CCG.

- 3) It seems strange – a missing link type problem if the practice contributes to the consortium and we as patients can contribute as individuals to the CCG (albeit in a v limited way), whilst the practice and their patients don't speak to each other. How is this best addressed?**

The recent capability & governance review recommends a different approach to practice & patient engagement, that is not based on current consortia arrangements. With this in mind, the CCG is working with patients to explore alternative arrangements (e.g. via the patient engagement event held on 23rd October 2014). Please see link below to the 'patient engagement' section of our website which includes the presentations from the event:

<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/Patient-Engagement/patient-engagement-event---23rd-october-2014.htm>

- 4) How is it being managed in other practices. I don't understand it, it doesn't seem to make sense, unless the practice sees it as yet another admin and bureaucratic exercise of no value to us or them. I know the work load has increased enormously with bureaucratic stuff. Is there any feed-back from the non-PPG practices?**

Chair: Dr Phil Jennings
Accountable Officer: Dr Abhi Mantgani

Please refer to the presentation regarding Patient Engagement Groups from the event as referenced above:

<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/Patient-Engagement/patient-engagement-event---23rd-october-2014.htm>

- 5) Last week, it seems that a PPG will be obligatory. Can you confirm this? I can see this will be unwelcome to reluctant practices, and difficult for us as patients to manage. Are there facilitators or some way of helping us through the transition phase?**

Please refer to the response to question 4.

- 6) Are Drs Mangani and Jennings continuing to be re-imbursed during their period of 'step-aside'?**

Dr Mantgani and Dr Jennings continue to be employees of NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group.

- 7) Were the senior people in the CCG elected? If not, how were they appointed and for how long? This will be even more important as the three consortia become one and 2 sets of staff posts in them will be 'deposed'? How will this be managed?**

The CCG Constitution is currently being amended in line with the recommendations of the recent capability & governance review. When amendments have been approved, the constitution will describe the arrangements for appointing / electing Governing Body members.

- 8) It is now about 4 or 5 months since the 'step aside' occurred. How much longer will the NHS England replacement be in place or is there no time limit to this appointment?**

The interim arrangements with NHS England will remain in place until the action plan in response to the capability & governance review is discharged.

I hope this sufficiently answers your FOI enquiry however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the FOI team (contact details at the top of this letter).

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