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Date: 19.03.2015

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 .

You Asked for:

1. Did your Clinical Commissioning Group provide free hearing aids for adults with mild to moderate hearing loss in 2013/14 and 2014/15, and is it planning to provide them in 2015/16?

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group is a commissioning organisation and has not provided free hearing aids for adults with mild to moderate hearing loss in 2013/14, 2014/15, and it is not planning to provide them in 2015/16.

2. How much has your Clinical Commissioning Group spent on hearing aids and other NHS audiology services in 2013/14 and 2014/15, and how much are you planning to spend on it in 2015/16?

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group spent a total of £2,353,931 on hearing aids and other NHS Audiology services in financial year 2013/14.

In relation to 14/15 the current position (data received from provider organisations to December) shows a year to date spend of £1,770,350 which gives a forecasted year end spend of £2,360,467 for 14/15.

The planned spend for 15/16 has not yet been finalised however will be the outturn spend from 14/15 with efficiency deflators and inflationary uplifts applied in line with the Monitor and NHS England National Tariff Payment System guidance.

3. How many a) digital and b) analogue NHS hearing aids have been fitted in your Clinical Commissioning Group in 2013/14 and 2014/15 (to date)?

Unfortunately NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group does not routinely measure these figures. I would suggest contacting individual providers directly.

4. How many people have been fitted with just one (and not two) hearing aids in your Clinical Commissioning Group in 2013/14 and 2014/15 (to date)?

Unfortunately NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group does not routinely measure these figures. I would suggest contacting individual providers directly.

5. What was the median waiting time between GP referral and the fitting of a hearing aid in 2013/14 and 2014/15 (to date) in working days?

Unfortunately NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group does not routinely measure these figures. I would suggest contacting individual providers directly.

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).

Yours sincerely



Paul Edwards
Director of Corporate Affairs
NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group

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