

Our ref: FOI ID 37006

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NHS Southport & Formby CCG

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Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding diagnostic testing activity, planning and funding services within NHS Southport and Formby CCG.

Request/Response:

1. Please confirm how many of the following diagnostic tests have been carried out in your area in each financial year since April 2013: (a) x-ray; (b) ultrasound; (c) CT scan; (d) MRI scan; (e) gastroscopy; (f) colonoscopy; (g) flexible sigmoidoscopy; and (h) histopathology.
2. Please confirm what the average waiting time in your CCG was for the following tests in each financial year since April 2013: (a) x-ray; (b) ultrasound; (c) CT scan; (d) MRI scan; (e) gastroscopy; (f) colonoscopy; (g) flexible sigmoidoscopy; and (h) histopathology.

For questions 1 and 2, monthly data on diagnostics and waiting times is available nationally via <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/diagnostics-waiting-times-and-activity/monthly-diagnostics-waiting-times-and-activity/>

Unfortunately, X-Ray does not appear in the link above, NHS Southport and Formby CCG have searched their available SUS data to get the required data. NHS Southport and Formby CCG does not hold waiting time data with regards to X-Rays.

Southport & Formby CCG X-Rays

Year	A&E	Inpatient	Outpatient
2013/14	15,229	2	1,013
2014/15	14,266	3	1,239
2015/16	15,370	5	905
2016/17	14,174	1	479
Grand Total	59,039	11	3,636

Please note: A&E data based upon any investigation code of 01 (X-Ray Plain Film)

Inpatient and Outpatient data based upon any procedure code containing:

U064 Plain x-ray of skull

U073 Plain x-ray of chest

U083 Plain x-ray of abdomen

U134 Plain x-ray of joint

U135 Plain x-ray of bone

U217 Plain x-ray NEC

Funding

- Please confirm your CCG's budget allocation to fund imaging, pathology and endoscopy activity in each financial year since April 2013, and what it is forecast to be in 2017/18.

NHS Southport and Formby CCG does not hold the data for 2013/2014 or 2017/2018.

Southport and Formby CCG - Imaging

Year	Actual Price	Price Plan
2014/15	£671,588	£606,841
2015/16	£1,855,399	£1,252,396
2016/17	£1,833,227	£1,599,670

Southport and Formby CCG - Endoscopy

Year	Actual Price	Price Plan
2014/15	£1,449,276	£1,478,280
2015/16	£2,110,778	£1,761,444
2016/17	£2,036,294	£2,211,177

Southport and Formby CCG - Pathology

<i>OIT - Southport & Formby CCG</i>			
Specialty Description	Financial Year	Price Plan	Price Actual
Chemical pathology	2014/15	£26,587	£31,417
	2015/16	£1,678,345	£28,791
	2016/17	£1,776,375	£28,322
Chemical pathology Total		£3,481,307	£88,530
General pathology	2014/15	£0	£97
	2015/16	£0	£83
	2016/17	£748	£15,746
General pathology Total		£748	£15,926
Haematology	2014/15	£0	£505,749
	2015/16	£347	£437,388
	2016/17	£0	£315,087
Haematology Total		£347	£1,258,224
Histopathology	2014/15	£0	£90,095
	2015/16	£0	£6,839
	2016/17	£0	£4,847
Histopathology Total		£0	£101,781
Immunopathology	2014/15	£0	£4,934
	2015/16	£0	£17,098
	2016/17	£0	£1,618
Immunopathology Total		£0	£23,650
Medical microbiology and virology	2014/15	£17	£409,515
	2015/16	£37	£162,720
	2016/17	£349	£195,575
Medical microbiology and virology Total		£403	£767,809
Grand Total	2014/15	£26,604	£1,041,807
	2015/16	£1,678,729	£652,920
	2016/17	£1,777,472	£561,194

NB: NHS Southport and Formby CCG marked increase in Price Plan from 1415 to 1516 is due to the absence of an agreed contract plan with Southport & Ormskirk Trust in 2014/15.

Please note all of this data has been sourced via our contract monitoring data (SLAM). The imaging costs are based upon HRG codes for diagnostic imaging services as set out in the 2016/17 national tariff guidance from NHS England. Endoscopy costs are based upon any HRG with 'Endoscopy' in the title. Again, taken from the national tariff guidance file. Pathology data was based upon a list of treatment function codes provided in the NHS Data Dictionary.

4. Please confirm whether your CCG received additional funding from the National Diagnostics Capacity Fund to increase capacity and productivity of diagnostic services. If so, how much.

NHS Southport and Formby CCG has received no additional funding in any of the above years from the National Diagnostics Capacity Fund.

Plans to invest and monitoring

5. Please confirm how your CCG assesses anticipated changes in demand for (a) x-ray; (b) ultrasound; (c) CT scan; (d) MRI scan; (e) gastroscopy; (f) colonoscopy; (g) flexible sigmoidoscopy; and (h) histopathology, and what assessment it has made of projected changes in demand.

NHS Southport and Formby CCG use the nationally published diagnostic waiting times and activity data <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/diagnostics-waiting-times-and-activity/monthly-diagnostics-waiting-times-and-activity/> to assess levels of activity for each diagnostic test area. As part of CCG Operational Planning requirements set by NHS England, plans were required for the NHS Constitution measures including Diagnostic test wait times by month and CCG for 2017/18 and 2018/19. For the Diagnostic test plans we considered 3 years historic activity but based our plans on latest 12 months performance, as activity in a number of areas have increased significantly in the last 12 months meaning a 3 year average figure wouldn't detail the growth which has occurred in these measures, and would produce a plan lower than the last 12 months. CCGs are also asked to consider any national policy changes which may affect activity as part of their planning, or changes to national guidance, which is considered by our Planned Care and Cancer managerial and clinical leads and communicated to the Strategy & Outcomes team to include in the CCG planning submissions to NHS England

6. Please confirm whether your CCG has plans to improve and expand diagnostic capacity in 2017/18 and, if so, what those plans are.

None

7. Please confirm how your CCG monitors capacity and performance for (a) x-ray; (b) ultrasound; (c) CT scan; (d) MRI scan; (e) gastroscopy; (f) colonoscopy; (g) flexible sigmoidoscopy; and (h) histopathology.

The plans submitted to NHSE for Diagnostic test performance are monitored monthly by NHS Southport and Formby CCG as part of our Integrated Performance Reports which are published on our websites <http://www.southportandformbyccg.nhs.uk/what-we-do/how-well-our-services-perform/>

8. If diagnostic capacity has not been subject to increased investment, which of the 9 'must dos' from the 2016/17 NHS England planning guidance have been prioritised?

Each of the '9 must dos' is of equal priority to NHS Southport and Formby CCG and we believe adequate capacity has been commissioned.

Referral management centres

9. Please confirm whether your CCG operates or commissions a referral management centre that assesses referrals by local GPs.

RMS manages referrals in terms of onward referral, it does not assess referrals.
Referrals are triaged in Dermatology only

10. If yes to question nine, please confirm whether the list of specialities that fall under the referral management centre's remit include suspected cancer cases.

No