

Our ref: FOI ID 36232

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southseftonccg.foi@nhs.net

NHS South Sefton CCG

Merton House
Stanley Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 3DL

Tel: 0151 247 7000

Email: southseftonccg.foi@nhs.net

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding fertility treatments and plans within NHS South Sefton CCG.

Request/Response:

I write to request the following information on your Clinical Commissioning Group's current fertility treatments and plans.

The revised 2013 NICE guidelines recommend that 3 cycles of IVF treatment should be provided for couples where the female partner is aged under 39, has an identified cause of infertility or infertility of two years duration.

Women aged 40-42 years who have not conceived after two years of regular unprotected intercourse or 12 cycles of artificial insemination, should be offered one full cycle of IVF

1. Could you set out your current IVF policy?

NHS South Sefton CCG's current IVF policy is on our website, please see the link below

<http://www.southseftonccg.nhs.uk/media/1435/final-infertility-policy-27082015-ssccg.pdf>

2. How much money have you spent on IVF in the years [2013/14](#), [2014/15](#) and [2015/16](#). For each year, how many people received IVF treatment and, of that number how many resulted in pregnancy, no pregnancy, cancelled or awaiting results.

NHS South Sefton CCG does not hold this information, you may wish to redirect your query to the provider:-

Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust
foi@lwh.nhs.uk

3. What is your estimated funding gap for the years [2015/16](#) [2016/17](#) 2017/18 and 2019/20?

NHS South Sefton CCGs funding gap is the difference between the funding allocation and the expenditure commitments in each financial year. The table below outlines the CCG's current financial plan. Note that 2016/17 figures are draft and subject to final confirmation of the CCG year end position.

		2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
South Sefton CCG	CCG Allocation	239.67	244.16	241.73	245.20	250.13
	CCG Expenditure Plan	241.15	251.85	247.61	252.64	259.09
	Funding Gap	(1.474)	(7.696)	(5.880)	(7.433)	(8.960)

4. Is the funding gap affecting your ability to fund fertility treatments? And more broadly, do you think IVF provision by the NHS is unsustainable in light of funding pressures?

NHS South Sefton CCG continues to review all our commissioned services in light of financial pressures.

5. Have you held a public consultation on IVF provision in your local area? If you have held a consultation can you provide the details of the questions you asked and the decision you made in regard to services?

The last consultation was held in 2014 and was part of the review of the commissioning policy as a result of this we commissioned services in line with NICE guidance.

6. If you answered no to question 5, do you have any plans to hold a public consultation on IVF provision? If so, can you detail the proposed scope of that consultation and the options you will offer the local community in regards to service?

NHS South Sefton CCG will be reviewing the policy this year as part of our wider review of the commissioning policy but are unable to give details at this point as this phase of the review hasn't commenced.

7. If you answered no to question 6 will you rule out running a consultation in 2017/18, 2018/19 and/or 2019/20

NHS South Sefton CCG are reviewing our commissioning policy of which the fertility policy is part of this. This will involve a consultation however until the policy has been reviewed we are unable to comment on the content of the consultation.