

Our Ref: 51836

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NHS South Sefton CCG

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Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding audiology services within NHS South Sefton CCG.

Request/[Response](#):

Name of CCG area: [NHS South Sefton CCG](#)

1. Are any of the adult hearing services provided through Any Qualified Provider (AQP) in your CCG area?
 - a. [Yes](#)
 - b. No

If 'yes' please state how many providers - [2](#)

2. Do you have a policy on the implementation of the NICE guideline 'Hearing loss in adults: assessment and management' when providing adult audiology services? (*Please highlight the relevant response*)
 - [Yes – Please see appendix 1.](#)
 - No

Any comments:

[CCGs are working collectively on updating the service specification](#)

3. Do you have any policy against providing hearing aids to people with mild hearing loss (20-34dBHL)?
 - Yes
 - No

Any comments:

[Please see appendix 1.](#)

4. When adults have an aidable hearing loss in both ears, what is your CCG policy? *(Please highlight the relevant response)*
- Two hearing aids are always offered
 - One hearing aid is offered in the first instance unless someone specifically requests two hearing aids
 - Only one hearing aid is offered
 - We have a restriction in place for fitting hearing aids (please comment):

[Please see appendix 1.](#)

5. a) Is any of the following data collected in relation to outcomes from adults using hearing loss services in your area? *(Please highlight the relevant response/s)*
- Continuation with use of hearing intervention provided;
 - Reported benefits from hearing intervention;
 - Service user satisfaction with their choice of intervention;
 - Reduced communication difficulties; and
 - Improved quality of life
- b) Do you publish any of this data?
- Yes
 - No

If 'yes' please specify:

[NHS South Sefton CCG does not currently collect outcome data via the contracts. You may wish to refer your query to – Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust: \[FOIrequests@aintree.nhs.uk\]\(mailto:FOIrequests@aintree.nhs.uk\).](#)

6. Are adult hearing loss services in your CCG area commissioned on the basis of activity (e.g. number of procedures performed) or on the basis of outcome (e.g. patient outcome data)?
- [Activity](#)
 - Outcome
 - Other (please specify):
7. Please let us know:

- Your spend on adult audiology in 2017/18
[£340,609](#)

- Your planned spend in 2018/19

[AQP contracts are £0 based and do not have indicative activity plan. Planned spend for internal purposes is based on previous year out turn](#)

- Your planned spend in 2019/20 (if known)

[AQP contracts are £0 based and do not have indicative activity plan. Planned spend for internal purposes is based on previous year out turn](#)

8. a) Please let us know the number of adults prescribed with hearing aids:

- in 2015/16
- in 2016/17
- in 2017/18

b) Please let us know the number of hearing aids prescribed:

- in 2015/16
- in 2016/17
- in 2017/18

NHS South Sefton CCG does not receive this level of data.

You may wish to refer your query to – Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:
FOIrequests@aintree.nhs.uk.

9. Please let us know:

- The number of full time equivalent adult audiologists across your CCG excluding any locums

NHS South Sefton CCG does not hold this information. You may wish to refer your query to
- Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:
FOIrequests@aintree.nhs.uk.

- The number of full time equivalent adult locums (if applicable)

NHS South Sefton CCG does not hold this information. You may wish to refer your query to
- Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:
FOIrequests@aintree.nhs.uk.

- The cost of the following for non-complex adults (please complete table):

Description	Cost
Audiology hearing aid assessment only	£49
Pathway for hearing aid assessment, fitting of one hearing aid device, cost of one device and first follow up	£294
Pathway for hearing aid assessment, fitting of two hearing aid devices, cost of two devices and first follow up	£388
Hearing aid aftercare (repairs)	£23

10. Has there been any of the following changes to any of your services from the most recent financial year that figures are available to the previous financial year? *(Please highlight the relevant response/s and delete as appropriate)*

- Increase/decrease/ no change in the number of full time equivalent adult audiologists excluding any locums
- Increase/decrease/ no change in the number of full time equivalent adult locums (if applicable)
- Increase/decrease/ no change in cost in any aspect of the pathway for non-complex adults
- Any comments:

NHS South Sefton CCG does not hold this information. You may wish to refer your query to - Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:
FOIrequests@aintree.nhs.uk.

11. Is it your policy to offer follow up appointments routinely within 12 weeks of a hearing aid fitting appointment in your CCG area?

- Yes
- No
- Other (please comment):

Please see appendix 1.

12. Do you provide audiology clinics out of hours i.e. after 6pm/ weekends?

- Yes
- No

NHS South Sefton CCG does not hold this information. You may wish to refer your query to - Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust:
FOIrequests@aintree.nhs.uk.

13. Is it your policy to charge for any the following in your CCG area? *(Please highlight all the relevant responses)*

- Battery provision
- Lost hearing aid
- Ear moulds
- Swim plugs
- Tubing
- Earwax removal
- Other (please comment):

Please see appendix 1.