

Ref: FOI/00316/CMICB
14 April 2023

Dear,

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
Community Ophthalmology Services & Glaucoma Care**

Thank you for your information request indicated in bold below, which has now been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB). I am able to provide you with the following information and responses.

Please note from 01 July 2022, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) were disestablished, and their statutory functions and responsibilities inherited by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB.

Your Request:

The information is relating to community ophthalmology services and specifically around the provision of glaucoma care.

1) Are there any private providers delivering NHS commissioned community glaucoma services (Y/N)

1a) If Yes, are these for new and follow up patients or just follow up patients

1b) If Yes, which providers

2) Are these services provided in any part by optometrists (Y/N)

2a) If Yes, what is the minimum professional qualification of the optometrists providing the service. (eg, MCOptom or Prof Cert Glaucoma or Higher Cert Glaucoma or DipGlau)

2b) Are optometrists responsible for changing glaucoma medications (Y/N)

Our Response:

Please find listed below the information held in relation to NHS commissioned community glaucoma services in each of the former CCG areas that now make up NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB:

Cheshire

- 1) No.
- 1a - 2b) Not applicable.

Halton

- 1) No.
- 1a - 2b) Not applicable.

Knowsley

- 1) No.
- 1a - 2b) Not applicable.

Liverpool

- 1) Yes.
- 1a) Primary Eyecare Services Ltd.
- 1b) For repeat reading of patients with increased Intraocular Pressure (IoP) prior to secondary care referral.
- 2) Yes.
- 2a) Accredited via Wales Optometry Postgraduate Education Centre Course (WOPEC) / Local Optical Committee Support Unit (LOCSU) in line with core competencies set out by the General Optical Council (GOC).
- 2b) No.

South Sefton / Southport & Formby

- 1) Yes.
- 1a) Primary Eyecare Services Ltd.
- 1b) Glaucoma referral filtering for new patients and glaucoma monitoring service for follow-up patients.
- 2) Yes.
- 2a) Please find enclosed *WCCG Competencies and Qualifications Summary* for registered eyecare professionals delivering community ophthalmology services.
- 2b) No.

St Helens

- 1) No.
- 1a - 2b) Not applicable.

Warrington

- 1) No.
- 1a - 2b) Not applicable.

Wirral

- 1) No.
- 1a - 2b) Not applicable.

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact us to discuss.

We also wish to take this opportunity to inform you that, where you are not satisfied with the response to your request for information, a formal complaints and internal review process is available.

This can be formally requested by emailing foi@cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk and must be done within a reasonable time period (3 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you remain dissatisfied with our review under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted at;

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Should you need any further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us quoting the above FOI reference.