



Southport and Formby Clinical Commissioning Group

Our ref: FOI ID 33057

20 January 2017

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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 Rapid Specialist Opinion System services within NHS Southport and Formby CCG.

Request/[Response](#):

Does this CCG use a system, for example, a Rapid Specialist Opinion system to review patient referrals from GPs to hospital specialists?

[We have a referral management service in place to ensure smooth administration of referrals but does not have any clinical specialist input.](#)

If yes:

how long has this system been in place for, what consultation was undertaken before the decision to implement this system was made, what company is used to carry out the review of the referral?

[Not applicable as the system does not clinically review referrals.](#)

If no:

do you have any plans in place to implement a Rapid Specialist Opinion system, or other system to review GP referrals to specialists?
what are the details of the plan?

[We are using the current data to determine if adding in clinical triage would be of benefit.](#)

What is your policy for consultation with the public before contacting private companies to run NHS services?

[The need for consultation would be determined by the service change not the provider.](#)

Do you obtain consent from patients before passing their medical records and personal details to private companies?

[Yes, and any contracts with non NHS organisations are subject to NHS contracts which has requirements about information governance and data sharing.](#)

Chair: Dr Rob Caudwell
Chief Officer: Fiona Taylor