

Ref. No: 0904  
Date: 02/05/24  
Subject: Emergency Ophthalmology Services

## REQUEST

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding provision for urgent and emergency ophthalmology (eye care) services.

1. Does your Eye Service / A&E service offer emergency / casualty eye care by walk-in, telephone or self-referral? If so, can you please state if it is walk-in, telephone or self-referral based and can you provide activity data for each of the last 5 years (2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23)?
2. Number of adult patients attending, in each year, in the age groups of, 18 to 24; 25 to 34; 35 to 49; 50 to 64; over 65?
3. Number of adult patients attending, in each year, split by casualty / A&E Triage Category of 3, 4 & 5 (we have intentionally excluded Category 1 & 2 from this FOI)?
4. Number of adult patients transferred / onward referred, in each year, to the Outpatient Eye Clinic for ongoing care?

If possible, please provide the information in a spreadsheet format to facilitate analysis. If any of the information is not available or would require an excessive amount of time to retrieve, please let me know and provide an explanation if possible.

## RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust became a single legal entity known as Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023, as such parts of the response may be provided in two sections relating to the hospital sites of each of the legacy organisations.

1. Does your Eye Service / A&E service offer emergency / casualty eye care by walk-in, telephone or self-referral? If so, can you please state if it is walk-in, telephone or self-referral based and can you provide

**activity data for each of the last 5 years (2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23)?**

Our Emergency Eye service clinics are appointment only by referral from Optician, GP or through Cues and not self-referral or walk-ins. A&E will see walk-ins and deal with basic eye conditions but will refer and book appointments for the Emergency Eye clinic should further treatment required.

- 2. Number of adult patients attending, in each year, in the age groups of, 18 to 24; 25 to 34; 35 to 49; 50 to 64; over 65?**

N/A

- 3. Number of adult patients attending, in each year, split by casualty / A&E Triage Category of 3, 4 & 5 (we have intentionally excluded Category 1 & 2 from this FOI)?**

N/A

- 4. Number of adult patients transferred / onward referred, in each year, to the Outpatient Eye Clinic for ongoing care?**

St Helens and Knowsley:

This information is not held.

Southport and Ormskirk:

2018/19	1788
2019/20	1026
2020/21	656
2021/22	539
2022/23	183