Request:

1. Please state the total number of referrals from primary care to Ophthalmology for cataract surgery (all types) in A) 2016, B) 2017 and C) 2018 to date. If it is not possible to provide data specifically regarding cataract surgery referrals then please provide data for all Ophthalmology referrals for A, B and C.

2. A) Has the CCG updated its eligibility guidelines and/or referrals policy for cataract surgery since 04/08/17? B) If yes, please provide a link to the relevant website or attach the relevant document, stating page number where applicable.

Response:

1. NHS St Helens CCG are not able to see the source of Referral for Day Cases and Electives, which appear to be the admission methods for Cataract surgeries. However we have developed a proxy based on the amount of GP referred Outpatient 1st attendances for Ophthalmology. Please see attached spreadsheet.

2. NHS St Helens is currently reviewing the PLCP policy in stages (http://www.sthelensccg.nhs.uk/media/1546/final-plcp-commissioning-policy-31-03-2015.pdf) and phase 1 and phase 2 will shortly be implemented. We are expecting the full policy to be available in April.

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 a formal complaints and internal review process is available, which will be managed by a FOI Appeals Officer.

This can be formally requested and must be done within a reasonable period of time (3 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.
Where you are not satisfied with the response to a request for information that falls within the Environmental Information Regulations, you should make a representation for a review to FOI Appeals Officer, sthelensccg.foi@nhs.net within 40 days of receipt of the response.

If you are not satisfied 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:

ICO, 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 me quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Delea
Associate Director – Corporate Governance
NHS St Helens Clinical Commissioning Group
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar Year</th>
<th>OP First Attendances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 YTD</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>2,317</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Providers (St. Helens CCG Registered) | 1st January 2016 - 31st January 2018 | Outpatient first attendances

GP Referred Ophthalmology Outpatient Attendances

Source: SUS Data