

FOI 1954

27/10/2023

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST**

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### **Question 1.**

**In 2015, were there any rules or procedures in place regarding a patient referral made by a GP to Gastroenterology Outpatients or Paediatric Outpatients i.e. did an individual have to be of a certain age to be referred to Paediatrics rather than Gastroenterology adult services?**

### **Response:**

In 2015, the age limit for acute paediatric medical and surgical referrals was up to the child's 14th birthday.

### **Question 2.**

**Were there any other considerations within the Southern Trust regarding a Paediatric patient versus an adult patient in 2015?**

### **Response:**

There is insufficient information provided for a response to be issued. If this can be clarified we will go back to the Service for you.

### **Question 3.**

**In 2015, if a patient who was 16 years of age at the time of the referral to Paediatrics, would this patient have been re-referred to adult services i.e. Gastroenterology adult service instead? Likewise, had a 16 year old patient been referred to Gastroenterology adult service, would they have been re-referred to Paediatrics?**

### **Response:**

A patient who was 16 years of age at the time of the referral to Acute Paediatric Service would have been triaged by a Consultant Paediatrician and as outside of the age limit, the Consultant would have advised the Booking Centre to redirect to the appropriate adult specialty.

[Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net)