

11 February 2019

CCG Headquarters  
First Floor  
Staffordshire Place 2  
Stafford  
ST16 2LP  
Tel: 01785 356944

**Re: Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

**Ref no: CAS-04038-F9N3S7-CC**  
**CAS-04038-F9N3S7-ES**  
**CAS-04038-F9N3S7-NS**  
**CAS-04038-F9N3S7-SE**  
**CAS-04038-F9N3S7-SAS**  
**CAS-04038-F9N3S7-SOT**

Thank you for your correspondence dated 14 January 2019 making a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information which may be held by NHS Cannock Chase Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), NHS East Staffordshire CCG, NHS North Staffordshire CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG.

**You requested the following information and our response is detailed below:**

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information:

- The total number of requests for exceptional funding or prior approval received each financial year over the period 2013 to 2018.
- The total number of requests for exceptional funding or prior approval that were approved each financial year over the period 2013 to 2018.
- The number of requests for exceptional funding or prior approval for each procedure type (e.g. hip replacement, knee replacement) received each financial year over the period 2013 to 2018.
- The number of requests for exceptional funding or prior approval for each procedure type (e.g. hip replacement, knee replacement) that were approved each financial year over the period 2013 to 2018.

**Please see attached spreadsheet**

- Any changes in commissioning policy occurring between 2013 and 2018 for the following procedures: hip replacement, knee replacement, varicose vein surgery, cataract removal surgery. Example changes to commissioning policy include restrictions on eligibility for surgery based on BMI, smoking status or severity of functional impairment.

**Please see attached policies**

**Right of appeal**

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 the FOI team to discuss. However, if you remain dissatisfied with the service you have received in relation to your request and

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**Cannock Chase CCG Chair:** Dr Mo Huda **East Staffordshire CCG Chair:** Dr Charles Pidsley **North Staffordshire CCG Chair:** Dr Alison Bradley **Stoke on Trent CCG Chair:** Dr Ruth Chambers **Stafford and Surrounds CCG Chair:** Dr Paddy Hannigan **South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG Chair:** Dr Shammy Noor **Accountable Officer:** Marcus Warnes

wish to request a review of our decision, this can be formally requested in writing and must be within a reasonable period of time (two calendar months) from the date this response was issued

Initially you should write to the freedom of information officer, either by email on [MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net](mailto:MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net) or post to Jubilee House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TR, specifying why you feel you have been wrongly denied access to the information requested. The freedom of information team will make sure your request is investigated by an independent reviewer who was not involved in the original consideration of your request and a written response will be provided within 20 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS East Staffordshire CCG, NHS North Staffordshire CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke on Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF  
[www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

### **Copyright and the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations**

Most of the information that we provide in response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 requests will be subject to copyright protection. In most cases the copyright will be owned by NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS East Staffordshire CCG, NHS North Staffordshire CCG NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke on Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula The copyright in other information may be owned by another person or organisation, as indicated in the information itself.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. The information may also be used for the purposes of news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example, by publishing the information or issuing copies to the public will require the permission of the copyright owner. For information where the copyright is owned by NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS East Staffordshire CCG, NHS North Staffordshire CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke on Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG please submit a request in writing stating:

- Name and address of applicant requiring permission for re-use of the information.
- Full details of the document/information required for re-use sufficient for NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS East Staffordshire CCG, NHS North Staffordshire CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke on Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG to identify it.
- The purpose for which the document/information is to be re-used.

For information where the copyright is owned by another person or organisation, you must apply to the copyright owner to obtain their permission. However, if you require more information on copyright please see the ICO guidance which can be accessed via the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1151/datasets-foi-guidance.pdf>

Yours sincerely



**Sally Young**

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## **Director of Corporate Services, Governance and Communications**

NHS Cannock Chase CCG  
NHS East Staffordshire CCG  
NHS North Staffordshire CCG  
NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG  
NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG  
NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG

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