



23 April 2019

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – DECISION NOTICE

Dear Requester

**FOI Reference Number: 000336**

I refer to your email of 25 March requesting information in respect of exceptional funding or prior approval.

I can confirm on behalf of Great Yarmouth and Waveney, North Norfolk, South Norfolk, Norwich and West Norfolk CCGs and in accordance with S.1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do hold some of the information that you have requested. A response to each element of your request is detailed below and within the attached.

The following response is informed by information held by the Individual Funding Request (IFR) Team on behalf of the CCGs in relation to the IFR Service commissioned under a Service Level Agreement. This is coupled with some information held by the CCGs.

### **Request**

- 1 - The total number of requests for exceptional funding or prior approval received each financial year over the period 2013 to 2018.
- 2 - The total number of requests for exceptional funding or prior approval that were approved each financial year over the period 2013 to 2018.
- 3 - 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.
- 4 - 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.

### **Response**

Please note that there have been several changes of systems used for recording information and providers of the IFR and Prior Approval service since 2016. Therefore the information held by the CCGs is limited however that identified is provided within the attached.

Please also note that except for Norwich CCG no prior approval data is held.

Please see below for information held by Norwich CCG in addition to the information provided for Norwich CCG in the attached spreadsheet.

- The total number of requests for exceptional funding or prior approval received each financial year over the period 2013 to 2018.

| IFR     |                             |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| 2016/17 | 2017/18 Up to December 2017 |
| 66      | 33                          |

**Prior Approvals – April 2016 to January 2017 = 2,201 prior approvals received.**

- The total number of requests for exceptional funding or prior approval that were approved each financial year over the period 2013 to 2018.

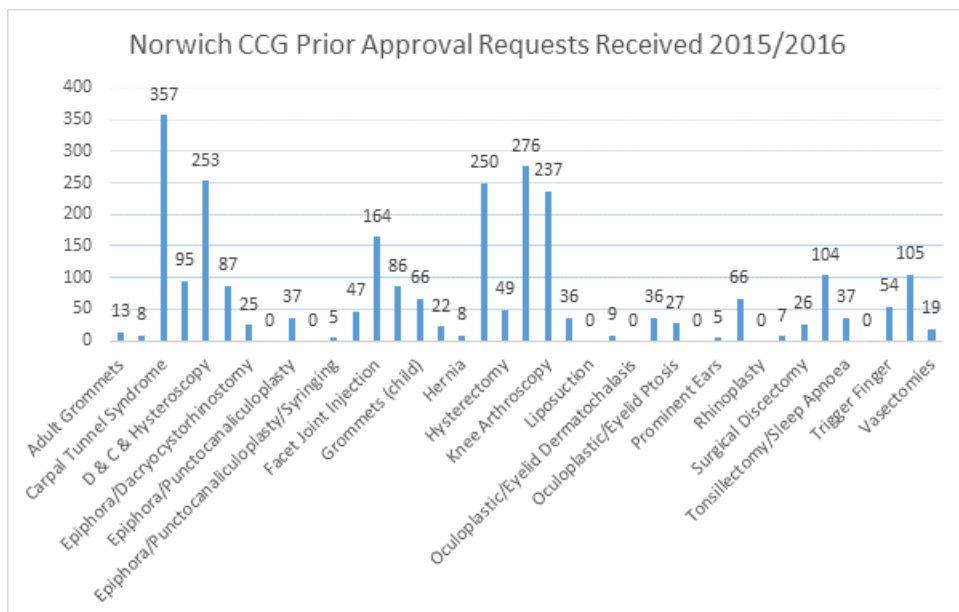
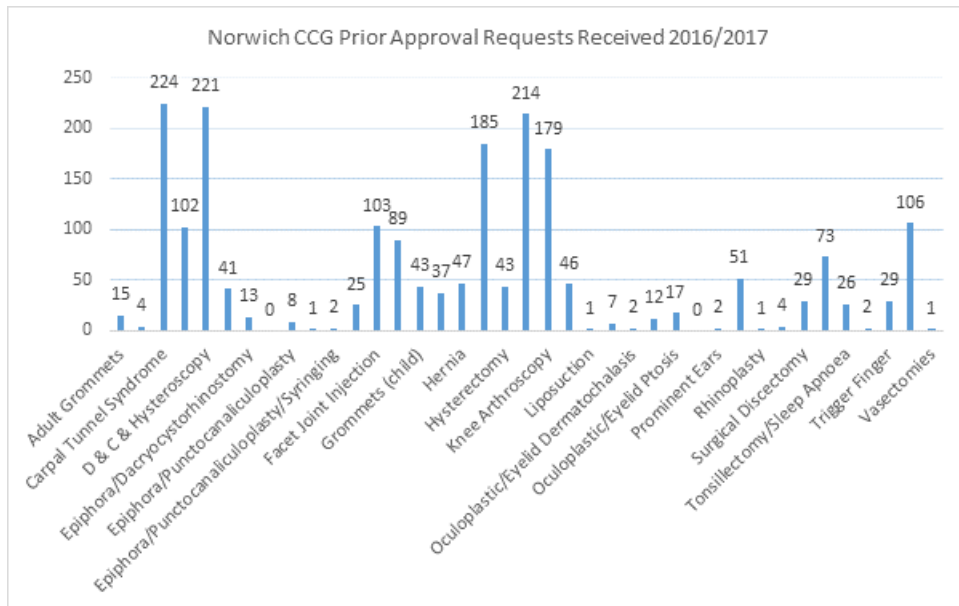
| IFR     |                             |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| 2016/17 | 2017/18 Up to December 2017 |
| 11      | 8                           |

**Prior Approvals – April 2016 to January 2017 = 2,200 prior approvals approved.**

- 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.

| IFR Requests - 2017/18 up to December 2017 |   |
|--|---|
| Assessment and Treatment of ASD            | 1 |
| IVF  | 1 |
| Cosmetic skin procedure                    | 1 |
| Slimming World                             | 1 |
| Breast procedure                           | 2 |
| Removal of benign skin lesions             | 2 |
| Dental implants                            |   |
| Abdominoplasty                             | 1 |
| Cryopreservation of gametes                |   |
| Lycra suit                                 | 1 |
| Sub-fertility treatment                    | 1 |
| Vasectomy reversal                         | 2 |
| Cryopreservation of sperm                  | 2 |
| Hair transplant                            | 1 |
| Cryopreservation of eggs or embryos        |   |
| Gynaecomastia                              |   |
| Hair removal                               | 2 |
| Functional electronic stimulation          | 1 |
| Vulvoplasty                                |   |
| Assessment & treatment of PTSD             | 1 |
| Labiaplasty                                | 1 |
| Hypnotherapy                               | 1 |
| Excision of skin tags                      | 1 |

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Excision of sebaceous cyst  | 1 |
| Sensory integration therapy | 2 |
|                             |   |



I hope that this answers your queries with the information we currently hold, but if I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to

Arden & GEM CSU  
FOI Team, Room 18

Scarsdale  
Newbold Road  
Chesterfield  
S41 7PF

Email [agcus.foi.norfolkwaveneyccgs@nhs.net](mailto:agcus.foi.norfolkwaveneyccgs@nhs.net)

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided the CCG.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, telephone 0303 123 1113, email [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

*Under the terms of the Open Government Licence, you may use and re-use the information provided within this response (not including logos or photographs), free of charge in any format or medium; unless identified as another party's copyright.*

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

Yours faithfully

Philip Humphreys

**FOI Manager, Arden & GEM CSU**

**On behalf of  
Great Yarmouth and Waveney,  
North Norfolk, South Norfolk  
Norwich and West Norfolk CCGs**