



Great Yarmouth and Waveney
North Norfolk, South Norfolk
Norwich, West Norfolk
Clinical Commissioning Groups

23 October 2018

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – DECISION NOTICE

Dear Requester

FOI Reference Number: 18723

I refer to your email of 4 October requesting information in respect of the Violent Patients Scheme.

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.

My request is:

“Would you please supply me with information about the Violent Patients Scheme (the scheme where GP’s can have a patient removed from their list because of violent behaviour)

The information that I require is for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 and I need figures for the numbers of patients, in England, that have been placed onto this list for each year, the number of appeals by patients for each year and the number of successful appeals for each year (for 2018 please indicate if ongoing)”

I understand that different CCG’s provide totals to NHS England either in yearly (1st Jan – 31st Dec) or financial year (1st Apr – 31st Mar) if you could indicate which I would be grateful, Y or F.

Response

To provide the information in the format sought coupled with statistical data which relate to fewer than five people would increase the likelihood of identifying individuals; thus breaching Section 24(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018 and Article 21 of the General Data Protection Regulation. Therefore we consider this information, in the format sought, exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

However to assist you further we can advise that records held show 30 individuals were placed on the Specialist Allocation Scheme, previously the Violent Patients Scheme, since 2017* for the five Norfolk and Waveney CCGs.

Further information may be available from Primary Care Support England (PCSE) <https://pcse.england.nhs.uk/> as PCSE collates and approve the actions directly from the GP practices. PCSE can be contacted at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/contact-us/foi/>

*2016-2017 Data unavailable due to a change in provider at this time. Capita took over from Serco. For the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 Patients could appeal but via the provider or the complaints team. A new appeal process has been put in place for 2018/2019 in line with the standardisation of the patient letters nationally

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.norfolkwaveneycchs@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

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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**