



## Freedom of Information request & West Norfolk CCG response

### WN-2017-00013 – Diagnostic Testing Activity, Planning and Funding

#### Activity and waiting times

1. Please confirm how many of the following diagnostic tests have been carried out in your area in each financial year since April 2013:
  - (a) x-ray;
  - (b) ultrasound;
  - (c) CT scan;
  - (d) MRI scan;
  - (e) gastroscopy;
  - (f) colonoscopy;
  - (g) flexible sigmoidoscopy; and
  - (h) histopathology.

*The information requested is exempt under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information reasonably accessible to the applicant via other means.*

*The Unify2 DM01 diagnostic activity return is published by NHS England and shows diagnostic activity by commissioner, provider, test and month since April 2013. It is possible to determine the average waiting time in weeks from this data. The monthly data sets can be found here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/diagnostics-waiting-times-and-activity/monthly-diagnostics-waiting-times-and-activity/>*

2. Please confirm what the average waiting time in your CGG was for the following tests in each financial year since April 2013:
  - (a) x-ray;
  - (b) ultrasound;
  - (c) CT scan;
  - (d) MRI scan;

- (e) gastroscopy;
- (f) colonoscopy;
- (g) flexible sigmoidoscopy; and
- (h) histopathology.

Please see the response to question 1.

### **Funding**

3. Please confirm your CCG's budget allocation to fund imaging, pathology and endoscopy activity in each financial year since April 2013, and what it is forecast to be in 2017/18.

	<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Plan/Budget £000</i>	<i>Activity 000</i>
<b>Imaging</b>	2013/14	£3,023	31
	2014/15	£3,109	51
	2015/16	£3,267	57
	2016/17	£2,998	57
	2017/18*	£3,040*	58*
<b>Pathology</b>	2013/14	£2,985	800
	2014/15	£2,341	751
	2015/16	£2,626	777
	2016/17	£3,042	805
	2017/18*	£2,770*	760*
<b>Endoscopy</b>	2013/14	£3,972	6
	2014/15	£3,960	6
	2015/16	£2,773	4
	2016/17	£3,071	4
	2017/18*	£3,114*	4*

\*2017/18 Plan/Budget is a draft value and may change.

The figures only includes Imaging and Pathology activity that has been recorded as a separate attendance whether from an NHS or Private Provider. Local NHS Providers complete significantly more Imaging and Pathology tests than but it is not reported separately to the CCG. For full total activity, FOIs would need to be redirected to all of the providers.

4. Please confirm whether your CCG received additional funding from the National Diagnostics Capacity Fund to increase capacity and productivity of diagnostic services. If so, how much.

*No additional funding was received from the National Diagnostics Capacity Fund to increase capacity and productivity of diagnostic services.*

**Plans to invest and monitoring**

5. Please confirm how your CCG assesses anticipated changes in demand for
- (a) x-ray;
  - (b) ultrasound;
  - (c) CT scan;
  - (d) MRI scan;
  - (e) gastroscopy;
  - (f) colonoscopy;
  - (g) flexible sigmoidoscopy; and
  - (h) histopathology,

and what assessment it has made of projected changes in demand.

*This is completed with historical trend analysis, discussions with primary care and provider partners as well as looking at national trends and guidance from Public Health Norfolk and NHS England. This will shape the anticipated levels of activity within the contract but these levels are not capped. If demand looks like it will go above anticipated demand, plans are flexed to accommodate the increase.*

6. Please confirm whether your CCG has plans to improve and expand diagnostic capacity in 2017/18 and, if so, what those plans are.

*Yes, plans are currently being modelled to increase in year to align with recommendations from NHS England. This is to comply with national guidance and best practice. This work is being completed with our clinical lead and providers, though is at an early stage.*

7. Please confirm how your CCG monitors capacity and performance for
- (a) x-ray;
  - (b) ultrasound;
  - (c) CT scan;
  - (d) MRI scan;
  - (e) gastroscopy;
  - (f) colonoscopy;
  - (g) flexible sigmoidoscopy; and
  - (h) histopathology.

*Capacity and performance is monitored by review of waiting times on a monthly basis. There are discussions as part of contract monitoring and discussion at our Cancer Delivery Board.*

8. If diagnostic capacity has not been subject to increased investment, which of the 9 'must dos' from the 2016/17 NHS England planning guidance have been prioritised?

*As per Question 6, the CCG are currently modelling plans for all of the must do's.*

**Referral management centres**

- 9. Please confirm whether your CCG operates or commissions a referral management centre that assesses referrals by local GPs.**

*The CCG do not operate or commission a referral management centre.*

- 10. If yes to question nine, please confirm whether the list of specialities that fall under the referral management centre's remit include suspected cancer cases.**

*N/a, please see the response to question 9.*