

Our Ref: ID 1638

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
Marriss House
Hamilton Street
Birkenhead
Wirral
CH41 5AL
Tel: 0151 651 0011

Re: Freedom of Information Request – Referral to Treatment (RTT) Pathways

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received into this office on 3rd February 2020.

You Asked for:

I am writing to request access to some information under the Freedom of Information Act.

- I would like to request any policy or document that describes your Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's) current approach for offering choice to patients who have been on an elective pathway for over 26 weeks.
- I would also like to request any documents regarding a pilot scheme for or about 26 week choice at your trust.

The 26 Choice that I am referring to is outlined in the following document and specifically explained in the following text from that document: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2020-21-NHS-Operational-Planning-Contracting-Guidance.pdf>

“A number of pilot sites across the country are now putting in place practical solutions to offer patients who have been waiting for 26 weeks on an RTT pathway a meaningful choice of an alternative provider. During 2020/2021, all providers and systems should be implementing supplementary choice at 26 weeks with reference to the 26 Week Choice Rules and Guidance and the best practice models emerging from the pilot programme. In preparation, providers should ensure they have robust validation arrangements in place, so that waiting list data are as accurate as possible”.

Our Response:

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) does not currently have a policy in place, however, a policy is in development as per NHS Planning Guidance.

We hope this information is useful, however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Corporate Affairs Team (contact details at the top of this letter)

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