

25th April 2019

Dear Requester

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST - RESPONSE

FOI Reference: OPTUM FOI 500-594 – SWL CCG

I refer to your email received on 3 April 2019. I can confirm on behalf of NHS South West Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) supported by Optum Commissioning Support Services, and in accordance with S.1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each element of your request is detailed below:

REQUEST & RESPONSE

For each of the three financial years; a) **2018-19**, b) **2017-18** c) **2016-17**, please provide:

- 1.0** the number of Individual Funding Requests (IFRs) and/or prior approval (PA) requests that the CCG **received** for cataract surgery &
- 2.0** the number of Individual Funding Requests (IFRs) and/or prior approval (PA) requests that the CCG **approved** for cataract surgery

RESPONSE:

In response to questions 1 and 2 above, please refer to the table detailed below:-

	16/17	17/18	18/19
SWLCCG	0	1	2

Special Note: Prior Approval is not required where treating in line with the criteria outlined.

Referral via GOS18 is for opinion and assessment to see if the patient fits the CCG criteria for cataract surgery. If the patient does not meet criteria the Consultant should advise the patient as appropriate with reference to clinical and personal circumstances.

Surgical treatment of cataracts will be funded, without prior approval, for the following groups of patients;

- Patient with a best corrected visual acuity of 6/12 or worse in either the first or second eye **AND** as a result of the cataract have impairment in lifestyle such as substantial effect on activities of daily living, leisure activities, or increased risk of falls. OR
- With a best corrected visual acuity of 6/9 in the worst eye where exceptional acuity is essential for their occupation (e HGV licence holders) or results in debilitating symptoms, such as distortion or glare

Cataract surgery is indicated irrespective of visual acuity for patients who have ocular co-morbidities e.g. glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy or symptomatic anisometropia.

3.0 the CCG's **total activity** for cataract surgery (i.e. the total number of procedures carried out)

RESPONSE: Please refer to Table A below:

Table A
Inpatients

CCG	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	FOT 2018/19	Projected 19/20
04Q: NHS South West Lincolnshire CCG	1,208	967	809	883	886
Elective	1,206	967	809	883	886
Non-elective	2			-	-
Grand Total	1,208	967	809	883	886

Outpatients

CCG	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	FOT 2018/19	Projected 19/20
04Q: NHS South West Lincolnshire CCG	269	257	271	296	297
Grand Total	269	257	271	296	297

4.0 Please state the CCG's **projected 12 month activity** for cataract surgery in **2019-20**.

RESPONSE:
Please refer to Table A above.

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

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

Optum Commissioning Support Service
FOI TEAM
South Kesteven District Council Offices
St. Peter's Hill
Grantham
NG31 6PZ

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 by the CCGs.

The Information Commissioner's contact details can be found here:
<https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the licence conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent from the CCG. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.

Yours faithfully

FOI Team
On behalf of NHS South West Lincolnshire CCG