



**Northern, Eastern and Western Devon  
Clinical Commissioning Group**

Ref: FOI1029

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Tel: 01392 205205

14 September 2016

Dear

**Re: Request for information under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received on Wednesday 17 August 2016.

The CCG is confirming in accordance with Section - (1) (a) of the Act, it holds the information requested and (b) is supplying it unless otherwise specified.

You requested the following information.

**I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on behalf of National Voices to request information regarding the Clinical Commissioning Group's use of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.**

**The Social Value Act requires commissioners to think about securing extra benefits for their area when they are buying services above the OJEU threshold. Before they start procurement, commissioners should think about how the services they are going to buy, or the procurement process they are going to use to buy them, could secure the most valuable benefits for their area.**

**We are keen to learn more about how widespread and how embedded social value is in the work of local government across England. We believe it likely that there is a great deal of hitherto largely unrecognized good work going on, and are keen to highlight and share best practice.**

**To this end I submit the following requests for information on behalf of National Voices under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:**

**1. A copy of, or link to, the CCG's social value policy, strategy, framework or similar document if there is one.**

Please refer to the attached document titled `procurement policy NEW Devon 2016` which describes the CCG's approach to Social Value (page 8).

**2. How has the CCG applied the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 in its commissioning, tendering and grant making?**

In Commissioning (and associated procurement) activity the CCG acts with a view to –

- Secure the needs of the people who use services
- Improving quality and efficiency in the provision of services
- Do what is in the best interest of patients and improve outcomes
- Secure best value for money

The CCG utilises a social value impact assessment in the pre-procurement stage to identify any impacts on social, environmental and economic aspects of the relevant area and as such consider any mitigating factors to be addressed by the procurement if there is potential for any negative impact.

Each project has its own specific set of critical success factors (CSF) which are derived and triangulated from participation and co-production activity; i.e. patient and public engagement, market and wider stakeholder engagement and the strategic aims for the service aligned to organisational and national strategy. These CSF then best represent the requirements that must be satisfied by the final solution in order for it to be deemed a success and represent patient interest as well as the wider landscape of provision (which can include social, environmental and economic factors as per themes and key messages from consultation and engagement activity).

As such social, economic and environmental value is considered, quantified and evaluated pre procurement, woven into key documents throughout the procurement process and given focus while negotiating with providers, and monitored post contract award. This is done in a proportionate way according to what is being procured

**3. Has the CCG applied the concept of social value below the OJEU threshold for services, or for contracts other than for services?**

Although not captured by the scope of the Social Value Act the CCG considers the social, environmental and economic impact for below threshold procurement activity where relevant and proportionate to do so.

**4. The percentage and number of tenders over the past 12 months where the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 has been applied and social value considered (that is to say, how much use does the CCG make of the Act).**

5 above OJEU threshold tenders (within scope of the Social Value Act) conducted in past 12 months.

**5. Where social value has been considered and is weighted in assessing tenders, what is the typical weighting for social value in the CCG's scoring across those contracts?**

There is no typical weighting for social value considerations and as such social value is considered proportionally to what is being procured. Each project will have its own specific set of critical success factors which are derived and triangulated from participation and co-production activity; i.e. patient and public engagement, market and wider stakeholder engagement and the strategic aims for the service aligned to organisational and national strategy. The questions and weightings are then derived and strongly linked to these critical success factors (CSF). These CSF then best represent the requirements that must be satisfied by the final solution in order for it to be deemed a success and represent patient interest as well as the wider landscape of provision (which can include social, environmental and economic factors as per themes and key messages from consultation and engagement activity).

## **Satisfaction**

I trust this matter has been dealt with to your satisfaction but if there is anything which you need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 01392 205205 or by email at [d-ccg.foi@nhs.net](mailto:d-ccg.foi@nhs.net) Please remember to quote the reference number at the top of this letter in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you can write to the office and arrangements will be made for an independent review. You of course can write directly to the CCGs Chief Officer if you prefer using the “contact us” details displayed on the CCG website.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the appeal, you have the right to appeal again to the Information Commissioner at:  
Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

Tel: 01625 545 700

Fax: 01625 524 510

### **Legal information pertaining to the release of this information**

Please note that the information being provided to you is for information only and remains subject to existing intellectual property rights; no license for the re-use of this information is given or implied through its provision to you.

Yours sincerely,

**The Freedom of Information Office  
NHS Northern, Eastern & Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group**