

9 January 2018

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By email

Dear [REDACTED]

Review of your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the “FOI Act”)

We refer to your email of **1 November 2017** in which you requested an internal review of NHS Improvement’s decision dated **6 September 2017** in relation to your FOI Act request dated **8 August 2017**.

Your request

“Please send me the 2017/18 A&E and RTT Improvement Trajectories for NHS Trusts.

Please send the details in an Excel file by email.”

Internal review request

“To borrow your terms, I am ‘dissatisfied’ with the response to my FOI request. I would make three points in reply and three requests:

- 1 A few trusts already publish their A&E and RTT improvement trajectories in their Board papers, hence they do not consider it disadvantageous to publish them*
- 2 The improvement trajectories for 2016/17 were published early in the year (21 July 2016) jointly by NHSE and NHSI, and this proved to be very valuable in tracking progress through the remainder of the year*
- 3 The data for 2017/18 to date was not published in the NHSI 28 September 2017 Board papers, as might be expected from the response to my FOI request*

I would request please that you reconsider your response.

Please advise when the improvement trajectories and actual performance will be published in NHSI Board papers.

Please send me a link to the published version of my FOI request. I have searched the NHSI website and cannot find it."

Decision

We have now conducted a review of the decision dated 6 September 2017. Since that decision was made, NHS Improvement has reviewed and changed its policies around the collection and use of the information you have requested. That change in circumstances has led me to decide that the information we hold can now be released to you. We attach the information you have requested.

It is important to note that these trajectories were collected at the start of the financial years. Since their collection decisions were taken not to use trajectories for performance management or regulation purposes. These trajectories do not therefore relate to expectations of current performance, or the interaction between NHS Improvement and individual Trusts.

In response to your query about publication of the improvement trajectories and actual performance, NHS Improvement took the decision, after we wrote to you, not to present this information to the Board. However, the information on A&E and RTT trajectories is being provided to you with this decision, and information about actual performance, which is published by NHS England, can be found here:

For A&E - <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/ae-waiting-times-and-activity/ae-attendances-and-emergency-admissions-2017-18/>

For RTT- <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/rtt-waiting-times/rtt-data-2017-18/>

You can access the original decision letter relating to your FOI Act request, dated 8 August, here: <https://improvement.nhs.uk/about-us/corporate-publications/publications/foi-e-and-rtt-improvement-trajectories/>

Review rights

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Publication

Please note that this letter will shortly be published on our website. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the FOI Act is disclosed to the public at large. We will, of course, remove your personal information (e.g. your name and contact details) from

the version of the letter published on our website to protect your personal information from general disclosure.

Yours sincerely

NHS Improvement