

23 October 2017

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By email

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Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the “FOI Act”)

I refer to your email of 26 September 2017 in which you requested information under the FOI Act from NHS Improvement. Since 1 April 2016, Monitor and the NHS Trust Development Authority (the “TDA”) are operating as an integrated organisation known as NHS Improvement. For the purposes of this decision, NHS Improvement means Monitor and the TDA.

Your request

You made the following request:

“Under the Freedom of Information Act please provide the number of consultancy days and total cost of private consultancy firms involved in the Capped Expenditure Programme. Please break the figures down by firm and their role in the programme. For example Deloitte’s role in assessing the plans, which I understand was at least 80 consultancy days.”

Decision

NHS Improvement has not commissioned any private consultancy firms to undertake work regarding the capped expenditure process (the “CEP”) and has also not collected the requested information from any organisations that may have commissioned such work.

You may be aware that NHS England and NHS Improvement sent a letter to Eastern Cheshire CCG, East Cheshire Trust and Cheshire & Wirral Partnership Trust on 7 April 2017 which referred to work commissioned from Deloitte that related to the CEP. The letter, which is publicly available, explained the role of Deloitte’s work as follows:¹

“NHS England and NHS Improvement have jointly commissioned from Deloitte a six week rapid financial review of the Eastern Cheshire and South Cheshire/Vale Royal economies.

¹ The letter is available [here](#).

This will support local management in working together to exploit opportunities to reduce cost and improve the quality and deliverability of joint plans for 2017/18. This work will act as an enabler for, and is fully aligned with, the Capped Expenditure Process.”

Although NHS Improvement had some involvement with NHS England in agreeing to commission Deloitte’s work, the work was solely commissioned by NHS England (not jointly commissioned as the letter indicates).

NHS England is subject to the FOI Act and as such it is open to you to seek further information directly from them. They will need to consider whether information can properly be provided by them in response to any such requests within the terms of the FOI Act. Information about how to request information from NHS England under the FOI Act is available [here](#).

Review rights

If you consider that your request for information has not been properly handled or if you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you can try to resolve this informally with the person who dealt with your request. If you remain dissatisfied, you may seek an internal review within NHS Improvement of the issue or the decision. A senior member of NHS Improvement’s staff, who has not previously been involved with your request, will undertake that review.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of any internal review, you may complain to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether your request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the FOI Act.

A request for an internal review should be submitted in writing to FOI Request Reviews, NHS Improvement, Wellington House, 133-155 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UG or by email to nhsi.foi@nhs.net.

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