



## GOVERNING BODY

<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Reference No.</b>	<b>IESCCG 19-08</b>
<b>Date.</b>	<b>22 January 2019</b>

<b>Title</b>	<b>Freedom of Information</b>
<b>Lead Chief Officer</b>	Amanda Lyes, Chief Corporate Services Officer
<b>Author(s)</b>	Tony Buckle, Risk Manager
<b>Purpose</b>	To update the Governing Body on Freedom of Information activity within the CCG.

### Applicable CCG Clinical Priorities:

1.	To promote self care	
2.	To ensure high quality local services where possible	✓
3.	To improve the health of those most in need	
4.	To improve health & educational attainment for children & young people	
5.	To improve access to mental health services	
6.	To improve outcomes for patients with diabetes to above national averages	
7.	To improve care for frail elderly individuals	
8.	To allow patients to die with dignity & compassion & to choose their place of death	
9.	To ensure that the CCG operates within agreed budgets	

### Action required by the Governing Body:

The Governing Body is asked to note the report.

## 1. Background

1.1 The Freedom of Information Act 2000, provides a general right of access to information held by public authorities, including the NHS. Anyone can request information and has the right to be told:

- Whether the public authority holds the information, and
- If it does, to be provided with the information (subject to exemptions)

The Management Delivery Team handles requests on behalf of both West Suffolk CCG and Ipswich and East Suffolk CCG.

## 2. Key Issues

2.1 This report covers the second and third quarters of 2018/19 to the end of December 2018.

2.2 Requests continue to be received at an average of around 20 per month. There have been a couple of months (July and August 2018) where there were 37 and 35 requests respectively. Almost all of these cover both CCGs with only one or two being directed specifically to one CCG.

2.3 All the requests have been answered within the 20 working days allowed under the Act.

2.4 The source of requests remains consistent and the majority still come from requesters identifying as members of the public. It is likely however that a large proportion of these are actually journalists, or people making requests on behalf of commercial organisations. Interest groups are also responsible for high numbers of requests and patterns seem to develop depending on what is being reported in the newspapers and on TV. The media (local and national) also make a number of requests, again generally related to issues currently being discussed by parliament or other media sources.

2.5 The main topics requested have been varied with no real popular topic.

## 3. Future Action

3.1 The Risk Manager will continue to manage the responses to requests for information received under the legislation.

3.2 The tables in Appendix 1 give an overview of the number of requests received for the second and third quarters of 2018/19 to the end of December 2018.

### Appendix 1

<b>Jul – Sept 2018</b>	<b>Number of requests</b>
July	37
August	35
September	19

<b>Oct – Dec 2018</b>	<b>Number of requests</b>
October	18
November	17
December	13

<b>Quarter totals</b>	<b>Number of requests</b>
Jul - Sept	91
Oct - Dec	48
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>