

13/11/2025

NN-ICB/25-1368

Dear Requestor

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your request for information, received on 16 October 2025, regarding the outcome-based payment approach for NHS Talking Therapies. We have processed your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Under the FOIA, public authorities like ours are required to respond to requests for information within 20 working days. In response to your request, I can confirm that we do not hold the information requested.

**Details of your request:**

I wish to understand the testing and implementation of the outcome-based payment approach for NHS Talking Therapies (formerly known as Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT)) undertaken in your ICB area. To provide context, in the financial years 2017/2018 and 2018/2019, NHS England implemented a policy change relating to the reimbursement of treatment costs in NHS Talking Therapies. This relates to Local Pricing Rule 8 of the 2017/19 National Tariff, which required the adoption of an outcomes-based payment approach using the 10 national outcome measures collected in the IAPT dataset. The NHS England Strategic Finance team stated the 10 national outcome measures, and nominal weightings of each measure in the outcome element of the outcomes-based payment approach, include:

- Clinical outcomes - 50%.
- Patient satisfaction – 11.25%.
- Reducing disability and improved wellbeing – 10%.
- Employment outcomes – 10%.
- Patient choice – 3.75%.
- Access for BAME groups – 3%.
- Access for over 65s – 3%.
- Access for self-referrals – 3%.
- Access and waiting times standard – 3%.
- Access for specific anxieties – 3%.

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and NHS Talking Therapies service providers were supposed to shadow-test an outcomes-based payment approach from April 2017, with full implementation planned for April 2018.

Given the time period this information relates to, I refer to the following CCGs that transitioned into NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB:

- NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG.
- NHS Bassetlaw CCG.

Please could you provide the following information:

1. The date (year and month) each Clinical Commissioning Group region shadow tested an outcomes-based payment approach for NHS Talking Therapies treatment in the date range of 2008 to the latest available data.
2. The date (year and month) each Clinical Commissioning Group region fully implemented an outcomes-based payment approach for NHS Talking Therapies treatment in the date range of 2008 to the latest available data.
3. If all NHS Talking Therapies service providers within a Clinical Commissioning Group region adopted the change in reimbursement scheme at the same time. If not, which providers were selected for shadow testing, and when did all providers adopt the change.
4. If possible, the criteria/targets and associated weightings of the 10 outcome measures for each Clinical Commissioning Group region, once the outcomes-based payment approach was implemented from its introduction and each subsequent financial year up to the latest available data.

If possible, could you provide the information/data in a CSV/XLSX file in the following column format:

- Clinical Commissioning Group organisation/entity ID code.
- Clinical Commissioning Group organisation/entity name.
- The year when shadow testing of the new payment approach began.
- The month when shadow testing of the new payment approach began.
- The year when shadow testing of the new payment approach ended.
- The month when shadow testing of the new payment approach ended.
- An indicator of whether all service providers in the region participated in the shadow testing.
- NHS Talking Therapies service provider organisation/entity ID codes of providers not included in shadow testing (If not all).
- NHS Talking Therapies service provider organisation/entity ID codes of providers included in shadow testing (If not all).
- The year when the new payment approach was fully implemented.
- The month when the new payment approach was fully implemented.
- The criteria/targets and associated weightings of the 10 outcome measures for the Clinical Commissioning Group region (per financial year).

**Our response to your request:**

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board does not hold this information.

The predecessor organisations – the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) - did not undertake any shadow testing of the national outcomes.

An AQP Talking Therapies service was procured to commence in 2017/18, before the guidance was published.

The level of payment based on outcomes (access and improvement) was increased for that procurement in line with the expected national direction of travel but did not reflect the full list of national outcome measures.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) has an internal review procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting Lucy Branson, Director of Corporate Affairs via [lucy.branson@nhs.net](mailto:lucy.branson@nhs.net) or by writing to FOI Team at NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB, Sir John Robinson House, Sir John Robinson Way, Arnold, Daybrook, Nottingham NG5 6DA.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who will consider whether the organisation has complied with its obligations under the Act and can require the organisation to remedy any problems. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113 or report a concern via <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer on behalf of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board

[nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net](mailto:nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net)

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