

Request under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Request Ref: NGFOI 19/20: 214

Thank you for your request for information received at Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust (NGH) on 18/07/2019.

I am pleased to be able to provide you with the following information:

We are currently researching the NICE Guidelines and its impact on procurement, and access to the market.

We are looking specifically at diagnostics - NICE Guidance - DG34 - tumour profiling for breast cancer, as a recent example. We would like to understand any procurement plans you have in place as a result of this? Including dates, procurement route (open, restricted), regime (whether light touch regime, standard OJEU), likely weightings (quality vs price), or via NHS Supply Chain or other framework provider?

If NICE GUIDELINES changed or a recommendation made we would take the following action:

If by innovation there was no other entrant to the market we would publish a VEAT notice to in effect notify the market an award would be made. This removes the needs to go through OJEU process and allows the market to be aware.

We would prefer to explore legal compliant frameworks first and discussion made with clinicians around the options, NICE Guidance - DG34 refers to three suppliers for commercial and access options, these would be discussed with the clinician.

The trust is currently undertaking a procurement review which will be concluded this year.