



## **Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group**

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REF: FOI 155

05 November 2019

Dear Requestor

### **Request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

On 17 October 2019 you sent a request, made under the Freedom of Information Act, relating to ultrasound services. I now provide this information as an attachment.

I trust that this is the information you require and that your request has been fully discharged.

If you are unhappy with this response, you are entitled to request an internal review of our decision, handled where possible by a member of staff not directly involved in the initial decision. If you wish to request such a review, please write direct to the Data Protection Officer, NHS Dorset, Ground Floor, West Wing, Vespasian House, Barrack Road, Dorchester DT1 1TG. We aim to deal with requests for internal review within three weeks of receipt, although where the issues involved are very complicated this period may be extended up to a total of six weeks.

If you have queries about this response, please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

***Signature Removed***

**Paddy Baker**

Data Protection Officer

NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group

**Reference:** FOI 155

**Q1:** Do you commission direct access Ultrasound services for GPs to directly book for their patients?

- a) If so, does this service include provision of MSK ultrasound scans
- b) If so, does this include some / all ultrasound scans that are recommended within the NICE Guidance: Suspected Cancer: recognition and referral [NG12]?
- c) If so, what are the access times (from referral to scan) detailed within the service specification?

**Response:** Yes

- a) Yes
- b) Yes
- c) Six weeks from the date of GP referral (Dorset Healthcare). No specification for acute trusts.

**Q2:** How many providers of direct access ultrasound services (for GPs) do you have?

**Response:** 8

**Q3:** Do you commission both your local acute(s) and independent / private providers to provide these services?

- a) If so, please confirm the number of acute providers vs independent / private providers as well as the name of the organisations commissioned.

**Response:** Acute only

- a) Dorset County Hospital, Poole Hospital, Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital, Yeovil Hospital, Salisbury Hospital, Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Taunton and Somerset Hospital and Dorset Healthcare.

**Q4:** Do you pay national tariff for direct access ultrasound for these services?

- a) If so, does this cover all scan types regardless of body part and / or urgency of scan?
- b) If not, do you pay more or less than 19/20 national tariff?

**Response:** we hold a managed contract (block) with the Dorset Acute Hospitals and therefore do not pay tariff.

- a) n/a
- b) The cost within the block is in line with the national tariff price.