

# Procedures of Lower Clinical Priorities – ‘Reviewing Local Health Policies’

Supporting evidence



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# Media

A press release was issued both locally by the CCGs and regionally by the CSU to the following publications.

Publication	Local/Regional	Coverage
Liverpool Echo	Regional/Local (St Helens CCG)	The publication picked this up from a St Helens CCG perspective and tied the project to other headlines for the CCG including financial difficulties.
BBC North West Tonight	Regional	No coverage recorded
ITV Granada	Regional	'Shake up of NHS services in Merseyside & Cheshire' – 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2017
Made in Liverpool	Regional	No coverage recorded
BBC Radio Merseyside	Regional	No coverage recorded
Global Radio	Regional	No coverage recorded
Baurer Radio	Regional	No coverage recorded
St Helens Star	Local - St Helens	No coverage recorded
Local Life	Local - St Helens	Coverage in summer edition including direction to website for review

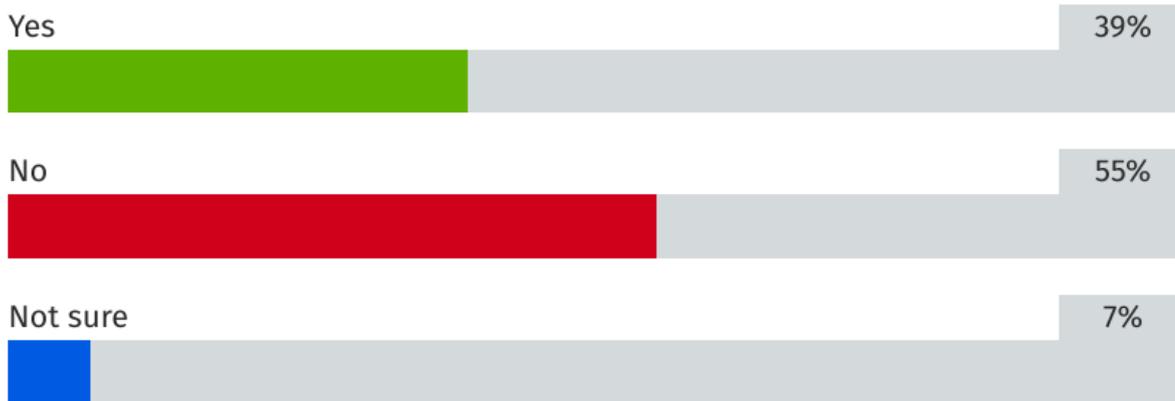
Warrington Guardian	Local - Warrington	<p>4th July - Treatments including nose jobs and tummy tucks may no longer be available on NHS for some residents.</p> <p>This article triggered 24 online comments. These have contributed towards to the comments themes below. Additionally, the media outlet carried out a poll on cosmetic surgery. Please see Figure 1.0 for results.</p> <p>14th July - Health Chiefs review 100 NHS treatments and policies</p>
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Figure 1.0 - Warrington guardian online poll, 4th July 2017.

Reader vote

This poll is now closed

**Should some cosmetic procedures be available on the NHS?**



Total Votes: 183

# Media - online comments key themes

For full comments, please see Appendix 1

Key themes of online comments include the following;

- Reluctant to pay for cosmetic procedures as part of NHS funding.
- Work is potentially linked to NHS cuts and privatisation.
- Agreement that cosmetic procedures should be provided for 'illness' or 'functional' reasons and not purely cosmetic.

## Stakeholder engagement

### Clinical Engagement

All detailed clinical engagement for suite 1 and 2 policies has been documents within the appendix of this document.



Microsoft Word  
Document

**Figure 1 Cataract and Botox feedback**



Microsoft Word  
Document

**Figure 2 Phase 2 policies feedback**



Microsoft Word  
Document

**Figure 3 Pinnaplasty feedback**



Microsoft Word  
Document

**Figure 4 Phase 1 policies GP and provider feedback**



Microsoft Word  
Document

**Figure 5 Back pain policies clinical feedback**

## Third Sector and Provider

Stakeholder	Action	Comments/follow up
4Wings	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
5 Borough Partnerships	3x email to share survey link and information with offer of a local meeting or focus group	Offer of meeting/focus group not taken up
ABCC (Anfield Breckside Community Council)	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Al Ghazali	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Alderhey Hospital	6x email to share survey link and information with offer of a local meeting or focus group	Offer of meeting/focus group not taken up
Alive Believers Centre	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Alt Valley Community Trust	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Amadudu Women and Children's Refuge	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Asylum link	3x email to share survey link and information with offer of a local meeting or focus group	Offer of meeting/focus group not taken up
Beacon Counselling Trust	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Bee Sparkling CIC	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Big Love Sista CIC	Email to organisations promoting the survey	

Catalyst	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Changing Faces	121 call with Head of Advocacy	Survey link shared via their channels and social media as well as the organisation themselves responding to the survey
Cobalt Housing	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Cycling Projects	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Elevate Potential	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Emmanuel Westly Foundation	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Everton in the Community	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Faiths4Change	3x email to share survey link and information with offer of a local meeting or focus group	Offer of meeting/focus group not taken up
Gather in Circle	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Greenbank	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Halton and St Helens VCA	Face to face meeting to discuss policies and potential opportunities for promotion and support	
Healthwatch Halton	4 x emails including content for newsletters and social media to support promotion	
Healthwatch Knowsley	Face to face meeting	
Healthwatch Liverpool	4 x emails including content for newsletters and social media to	

	support promotion	
Healthwatch South Sefton	Face to face meeting	
Healthwatch Southport and Formby	4 x emails including content for newsletters and social media to support promotion	
Healthwatch St Helens	4 x emails including content for newsletters and social media to support promotion	
Healthwatch Warrington	4 x emails including content for newsletters and social media to support promotion	
Home Start Liverpool	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
HOTA	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Kind	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
LCVS	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Listening Ear	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Little Angels Foundation	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Live Wire	3x email to share survey link and information with offer of a local meeting or focus group	Offer of meeting/focus group not taken up
Liverpool Pride	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
MDI	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Merseyside Council of Faiths	3x email to share survey link and information with offer of a local	Offer of meeting/focus group not taken up

	meeting or focus group	
Merseyside Domestic	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Merseyside Polonia	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Methodist Centre	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Mpower People	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
MRANG	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
MYA	3x email to share survey link and information with offer of a local meeting or focus group	Offer of meeting/focus group not taken up
Pakistan Association Liverpool	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Parks Option	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Prosperity Hub	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
PSS Ltd (UK)	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Psychological Therapies Unit	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Raise Ltd	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Rialto Neighbourhood Council	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
RNIB	3x email to share survey link and information with offer of a local meeting or focus group	Offer of meeting/focus group not taken up

Rotunda Ltd	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Sefton Health and Social Care Forum	Attendance at meeting to discuss project with representatives	Organisation sent link to survey with explanation to 181 contacts
Sefton in Mind	Attendance at meeting to discuss project with representatives	Organisation sent link to survey with explanation to 140 contacts
Sefton Park Day Centre	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Self Injury Support (Warrington)	3x email to share survey link and information with offer of a local meeting or focus group	Offer of meeting/focus group not taken up
Shrewsbury House	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Somali Women's Group	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
South Liverpool Domestic Abuse Services	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
SPARC	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
The Blackie	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Tomorrow's People	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Violence Services	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Voice of Nations	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
Warrington ethnic community association	3x email to share survey link and information with offer of a local meeting or focus group	Offer of meeting/focus group not taken up
Women's Organisation	Email to organisations promoting the survey	

Writing on the Wall	Email to organisations promoting the survey	
YPAS	Focus group	Centred around young people and the children's access to services for psychological reasons

## Online Activity

	Social media	Website
Knowsley CCG	NA	Dedicated webpage with link to materials and online survey
Liverpool CCG	Continuous promotions via social media platforms through 12 week period	Dedicated webpage with link to materials and online survey
St Helens CCG	Facebooks Ads to promote online survey for Age 18-21 Women and young people	Dedicated webpage with link to materials and online survey
Warrington CCG	Targetted Facebook for younger people and women aged 18-21	Dedicated webpage with link to materials and online survey
Halton CCG	Facebooks Ads to promote online survey for Age 18-21 Women and young people	Dedicated webpage with link to materials and online survey
Southport and Formby CCG	Continuous promotions via social media platforms through 12 week period	Dedicated webpage with link to materials and online survey
South Sefton CCG	Continuous promotions via social media platforms through 12 week period	Dedicated webpage with link to materials and online survey

## Meetings and Events

### Structure

The following structure was followed at each of the events and meetings attended for PLCP engagement.

At each event or meeting the following materials were provided;

- Hard copies of the survey, including freepost envelope
- Leaflet explaining the rationale for the project
- All attendees were encouraged to complete the surveys

Section	Summary
Introduction to project	<p>Overview provided to the groups explaining that the review of these policies/policy is something which happens on a regular basis to ensure that the policies are in line with the latest medical guidance and the most appropriate for all.</p> <p>The CCGs taking part doing this together were outlined to provide context for the scale of the project. The batch review process was explained, telling groups that there are over 100 policies in total being reviewed. The first batch of policies included 36 which were reviewed and 18 of which have proposed amends or changes made to them. Some of the changes are merely wording updates and clarification and some changes may have a wider impact.</p>
Approach to engagement outlined	<p>Each of the policies has been reviewed and specific groups of people who may potentially be more affected identified in the Equality Impact Assessments. For each of these policies, there has been a mini plan developed for how these cohorts of people might be engaged with, including targeted online activity, face to face group engagement and sharing of the survey amongst third sector groups. The survey is available online, hardcopy and over the phone to ensure that accessibility standards for all are met.</p>
Discussion on aims and objectives	<p>The three main objectives were outlined;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the most of NHS resources - this not only refers to the finances, but also staff time, operating theatre space, equipment etc.</li> <li>• Make sure that treatments are provided based on up-to date guidelines and the latest methods and technology.</li> <li>• Additionally, where possible, we would like to try and standardise policies and treatments available across the seven CCGs areas. All of this will help move towards patients having more equal access to healthcare.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The session is then opened up to the group to see if they both understand and agree with the aims.</li> </ul>
Overview of policies included in batch one	The policies included in batch one are then run through and examples of the engagement is included.
Any specific policies highlighted for discussion by group	The group then have the opportunity to discuss or ask further questions on any of the specific policies and discuss their agreement or disagreement with the proposed changes. In some groups all policies were discussed and in other specific ones were chosen based on attendees interests.
Feedback noted by event/meeting attendee	Feedback is then summarised and agreed with the group to ensure that they are happy with the output and that their views have been heard.
Close	

## Aims and Objectives

The following table demonstrated the general consensus reached at the following meetings where the aims and objectives of the project were discussed.

Strongly Agree = SA

Agree = A

Neither Agree nor Disagree = N

Disagree = D

Strongly Disagree = SD

	Aims and Objectives		
	Making the most of NHS resources - this not only refers to the finances, but also staff time, operating theatre	Make sure that treatments are provided based on up-to date guidelines and the latest	Where possible and appropriate, standardise policies and treatments

	space, equipment etc.	methods and technology.	available across the seven CCGs areas.
St Helens - PEIG x3	SA	SA	SA
St Helens- PPG	SA	SA	SA
Warrington - Health Forum	A	SA	SA
Southport and Formby SPOC	Mix of A&D	SA	SA
Healthwatch Knowsley – Focus group	SA	SA	SA
Halton - Peoples health forum	SA	SA	SA
Changing Faces - Call	SA	SA	SA
Healthwatch - South Sefton	50/50 Mix of A&D	SA	SA
South Sefton Consultation and Engagement review panel	SA	SA	SA
Halton PPG	SA	SA	SA

Southport and Formby Community Champions	SA	SA	SA
St Helens OSC	SA	SA	SA
South Sefton - Health and social care forum	SA	SA	SA
Liverpool CCG			
Knowsley PPG			
Halton PPG Plus	SA	SA	SA

## Policies

The following table indicated where there have been agreements or disagreements to changes to policies in each meeting.

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
St Helens - PEIG x3	Strongly agreed with all other policies			Children's statement 'Children under the age of 16 are able to access services for cosmetic and psychological reasons'	

St Helens-PPG/workshop		<p>Abdominoplasty and apronectomy – Tummy tuck</p> <p>Cataract</p> <p>Face and Brow Lift</p> <p>Hemorrhoidectomy</p> <p>Laser tattoo removal</p> <p>Laser hair removal</p> <p>Male Circumcision</p> <p>Surgical body contouring</p> <p>Surgical correction of scars</p> <p>Surgical removal of lipoma (fatty tissue)</p> <p>Surgical removal of minor skin lesions</p> <p>Surgical treatment for hair loss – hair transplantation</p>	<p>Pinnoplasty and Rhinoplasty- the group were split on this policy and the group did not achieve a consensus. This was predominantly down to some disagreement regarding the potential psychological impact.</p> <p>Removal of breast implants</p>	<p>Breast Enlargement</p> <p>Breast Reduction</p> <p>Male breast reduction - no disagreement with simplifying the policy, however disagree with the policy and would suggest an age bracket be entered.</p>	
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Warrington - Health Forum		All other policies		Removal of Children under 16 having access to treatments for psychological reasons statement	
Southport and Formby SPOC		All Policies			
Healthwatch Knowsley	All policies				
Halton - Peoples health forum	All Policies				
Changing Faces - Call					Removal of Children under 16 having access to treatments for psychological reasons statement
Healthwatch - South Sefton	Those at the meeting discussed, but shared views via completion of surveys individually, as well as sharing the survey via their channels.				
South Sefton Consultation and Engagement review	Those at the meeting discussed, but shared views via completion of surveys individually, as well as sharing the survey via their channels.				

panel					
Halton PPG	All Policies				
Southport and Formby Community Champions	Those at the meeting discussed, but shared views via completion of surveys individually, as well as sharing the survey via their channels.				
South Sefton - Health and social care forum		All policies			
Liverpool CCG					
Knowsley PPG					
Halton PPG Plus	All policies				
Sefton in Mind	Those at the meeting discussed, but shared views via completion of surveys individually, as well as sharing the survey via their channels.				
Southport and Formby and Southport and Seftons CCGs 'Big Chat' events	Those at the meeting discussed, but shared views via completion of surveys individually, as well as sharing the survey via their channels.  Leaflets, hard copy surveys and freepost envelopes were available event.				
Sefton Council's Public	Those at the meeting discussed, but shared views via completion of surveys individually, as well as sharing the survey via their channels.				

Engagement and Consultation Panel	Leaflets, hard copy surveys and freepost envelopes were available event
CCGs' Engagement and Patient Experience Group (EPEG)	Those at the meeting discussed, but shared views via completion of surveys individually, as well as sharing the survey via their channels. Leaflets, hard copy surveys and freepost envelopes were available event

## Reasons for agreeing

The following table highlights the key themes for agreement at meetings and events. These themes are in line with those highlighted in the survey also.

Policies	Themes					
	Making it simple for people to access	More clear wording and easier to understand	Improved quality of life	Positive Psychological Impact	Making access to treatments more fair	Using NHS resources in the best way possible
Cataract	X	X	X	X		
Surgical and laser treatment for minor skin lesions						X
Haemorrhoidectomy	X	X	X			
Surgical Treatment for Removal of Lipoma in Secondary Care						X
Rhinoplasty					X	X
Hair removal treatment including depilation and laser					X	X

treatment of electrolysis						
Pinnaplasty					X	X
Female reduction of mammoplasty	X				X	X
Removal of breast implants					X	X
Laser tattoo removal					X	X
Abdominoplasty and apronectomy	X	X				
Cosmetic surgery for body contouring	X	X				
Rhytidectomy	X	X				
Male Circumcision			X			X
Treatments for hairloss	X	X				

## Reasons for disagreeing

The following table highlights the key themes for disagreement at meetings and events. These themes are in line with those highlighted in the survey also.

Policies	Themes			
	Concern over removal of clinicians power to make judgement	Negative Psychological impact	Concerns this is purely a cost cutting exercise	Concerns this might make waiting times longer
Cataract	X			X
Surgical and laser treatment for minor		X	X	

skin lesions				
Haemorrhoidectomy	X			
Surgical Treatment for Removal of Lipoma in Secondary Care	No disagreement			
Rhinoplasty		X		
Hair removal treatment including depilation and laser treatment of electrolysis	No disagreement			
Pinnaplasty		X	X	
Female reduction of mammoplasty		X		
Removal of breast implants	No disagreement			
Laser tattoo removal	No disagreement			
Abdominoplasty and apronectomy	No disagreement			
Cosmetic surgery for body contouring	No disagreement			
Rhytidectomy	No disagreement			
Male Circumcision	No disagreement			
Treatments for hairloss		X		

# Appendix

## Appendix 1 – Online media comments – Warrington Guardian

Good! I don't work full time and pay national insurance to pay for someone's cosmetic surgery!!!

Can't you see what you've just fallen for? Its misdirection and you've just been conned by this group and the Warrington Guardian. By positioning cosmetic surgery to the front this story, they've got you to nod along with them. Either that or you've been employed to set the narrative

Slowly but surely privatisation of the NHS is beginning to happen.

The NHS has been misused by some for years, it was only a matter of time before those costs became critical. Having said that NHS management also has a case to answer for allowing this situation to develop.

Too bad most people are still too blind to see it. Wastage is simply a ruse used by the vile Tory scum to fuel it's privatisation. The Tories have wasted billions on this venture that could have gone in to actually funding the NHS. The tendering process alone is a costly waste of money.

If people truly believe that the 'abusers' of the NHS are responsible for it's downfall, they are part of the problem. The NHS was running at a surplus in 2010. This deficit has been deliberately and whole engineered for their gain, at the expense of all of us.

Cosmetic surgery should not be an NHS treatment unless it has been due to an illness

You should ask the question what else is being axed and don't fall for this. You have only read what they want you to read

Should be done for people who have had accident or illness but not for vanity. I went to Warrington general for a problem with my eye. Got refused surgery but the doctor while on a NHS consultation said he could do it for 1,800 private!!!

Hopefully making cutbacks like this will prolong the NHS. Good move.

No it won't. Unless you've been asleep for the last 7 years, the Tories have gone all out to run the NHS into the ground and privatise many of the most 'profitable' services, while at the expense of other essential services that can't make a profit for these sub humans. The head of NHS England has spent his 7 years in his previous role within the American Health Insurance system, which by the way bankrupts over 600,000 Americans each year. These cut backs along with every other aspect of restructuring are nothing at all to do with prolonging the NHS, it is about preparing it for the great sell off. By that time, there will be no NHS left and we will all be paying astronomical amounts for treatment and insurance.

Absolutely spot on

What a ridiculous comment. It's a race to the bottom and you're happy to take part.

I can only agree with Warrington Wife....too much is wasted on totally unnecessary cosmetic surgery to pamper to vanity. If a procedure isn't medically necessary it shouldn't be carried out on

the NHS. Furthermore anybody without a NI no should not be treated unless an emergency and then billed a later date!

And I can only agree that you and Warrington Wife have been hoodwinked by the Tory propagand machine. Far more is wasted on top down restructuring and contract tendering, but what ever daily \*\*\*\* rag you both read won't tell you that. All it will tell bigots like you is that vane people wanting cosmetic surgery and immigrants are responsible for all the ills of the NHS. Wake up for \*\*\*\* sake.

Too bad most people are still too blind to see that this NHS crisis has been deliberately engineered by the Tories. Wastage is simply a ruse used by the vile Tory scum to fuel it's privatisation. The Tories have wasted billions on this venture that could have gone in to actually funding the NHS. The tendering process alone is a costly waste of money.

If people truly believe that the 'abusers' of the NHS are responsible for it's downfall, they are part of the problem. The NHS was running at a surplus in 2010. This deficit has been deliberately and whole engineered for the Tory scum gain, at the expense of all of us.

The NHS should be for people who need treatment not who simply want stuff

Want stuff?? You mean like urgent treatment for the stroke they're having that is now unavailable in warrington?

cosmetic surgeries such as nose jobs, face and brow lifts, breast reductions and augmentations, tummy tucks, the removal of breast implants and surgery to remove moles and freckles, hair-loss cures, laser tattoo removals, surgical scar reductions. All not necessary.

Other procedures under review include cataract treatments, haemorrhoidectomies. I wouldn't consider these to be cosmetic. Why are they under review.

And penile implants? What are they? Cosmetic? Are the NHS making a rod for their own backs? They need to stiffen their resolve and cut-out cosmetic surgery on the NHS.

Cataract treatments, hemorrhoidectomies, should be available. Who wants hemorrhoids and be unable to see. The rich who avoid paying their taxes will just go privately.

Can understand that most would be deemed to be cosmetic but Cataracts - thought having them removed could save someone's sight - so would deem that to be a very needy and worthwhile procedure.

END