

Meg Hillier MP
Chair, Public Accounts Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Skipton House,
80 London Road,
London
SE1 6LH

12 January 2018

Dear Ms Hillier,

Continuing Healthcare

At the Committee's evidence session on Continuing Healthcare on 1 November 2017, I committed to write to confirm whether CCGs hold data on how many retrospective assessments, after someone has passed away, are carried out each year.

I can confirm that NHS England now includes "Previously Unassessed Periods of Care" (PUPoCs - formerly termed "retrospective assessments") in the mandatory quarterly data collection NHS England requires CCGs to complete. NHS England is currently providing guidance and support to CCGs for this data collection, with an intention of commencing publication with data from the first quarter of 2018/19.

Regarding the circa 63,000 PUPoCs quoted in the NAO report, identified as a result of a close down announcement made by Secretary of State for Health, in March 2012, approximately 25,000 resulted in "full assessment" for individuals that had passed away.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Cummings', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Professor Jane Cummings
Chief Nursing Officer, England