

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED CESSATION OF THE “QUARTERLY NHS COMMISSIONING POPULATION STATISTICS” OFFICIAL STATISTIC

Detail of Outcome

1. Defence Statistics (Health) opened a consultation with internal and external stakeholders on 21 April 2017, regarding the proposed cessation of the “Quarterly NHS Commissioning Population Statistics” Official Statistic

2. Four responses were received during the month long consultation period which ended on 2 June 2017. Four responses objected to the proposed cessation. A summary of the feedback received is provided in Annex A.

3. Taking into account the feedback, it has been decided that publication will now be changed from quarterly to bi-annual (start of financial year - April and mid-point of financial year - October editions). We believe that this will mitigate the concerns received from NHS England.

4. The last quarterly report was published on 25 May 2017. The first bi-annual report will be published on 23 November 2017.

Annex A – Summary of Feedback Received

NHS England (four responses)

- The stat provides the single source of information to commissioners in NHS England about the age, sex and location of the population for which they are responsible for.
- CCGs which have commissioning responsibility for the general population would receive this information at least on a quarterly basis.
- The information is used for short and long term planning purposes such as the development and agreement of contracts with providers or modelling the impact of the rebasing from Germany or other changes to the Defence Estate.
- Without this information it will be more difficult to validate changes in contract performance and be more difficult to engage with partners as to the needs of the Armed Forces Community as we will not be able to provide current population data.
- This could lead to members of the Armed Forces population being disadvantaged.
- No reduction in frequency should be considered until the rebasing from Germany is complete.