

*Newbury and District Clinical Commissioning Group  
North and West Reading Clinical Commissioning Group  
South Reading Clinical Commissioning Group  
Wokingham Clinical Commissioning Group*

**Excluded: Procedure not for CCG consideration**

**Thames Valley Priorities Committee Commissioning Policy Statement**

**Policy No. TVPC67                      NHS England Specialised Commissioning Services**

**Recommendation made by  
the Priorities Committee:              September 2017**

**Date of issue:                              December 2017**

Specialised services support people with a range of rare and complex conditions. They often involve treatments provided to patients with rare cancers, genetic disorders or complex medical or surgical conditions. They are provided in relatively few hospitals, accessed by comparatively small numbers of patients. These services tend to be located in specialised hospital trusts that can recruit a team of staff with the appropriate expertise and enable them to develop their skills.

The ambition of NHS England is to bring equity and excellence to the provision of specialised care and treatment. The Specialised Commissioning directorate of NHS England takes a consistent approach to central planning of specialised services which is delivered locally. It works to raise the standards of care for all patients receiving treatment for rare and specialised conditions, ensuring that patients have equal access to services regardless of their location.

Thames Valley CCGs **do not fund** specialised services, treatments or interventions that are directly commissioned by NHS England Specialised Commissioning, whether they are provided by a specialised a non-specialised provider.

Commissioned activity will be determined in accordance with the Manual for Prescribed Specialised Services

For more information on specialised services:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/spotlight-on-specialised-services.pdf>

**NOTES:**

- Potentially exceptional circumstances may be considered by a patient's CCG where there is evidence of significant health status impairment (e.g. inability to perform activities of daily living) and there is evidence that the intervention sought would improve the individual's health status.
- This policy will be reviewed in the light of new evidence or new national guidance, e.g., from NICE.
- Thames Valley clinical policies can be viewed at <http://www.fundingrequests.ccsu.nhs.uk/>