

# NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

## Publishing full responses received from consultees and commentators on review proposals on the NICE website

### 1.0 Introduction

This briefing paper is presented to SMT for information and relates to a change in procedure for review proposals following a review of the current process followed.

Within the technology appraisal programme, it is standard process that within any appraisal all comments received on consultation documents from consultees and commentators are published in full on the NICE website, with the exception of scope comments (a summary is published in this instance).

This is in line with the Institute's policy of openness and transparency as well as helping minimise the request received via Freedom of Information.

### 2.0 Background

For review proposals the current process is for a **summary table** of all comments received to be published on the Institute's web site when a final decision on the review proposal has been taken by Guidance Executive (GE). This happens via the publication of the GE papers and therefore these comments do not currently appear on the specific webpage where the review proposal and review decision are published.

### 3.0 Procedural change

To maintain consistency and improve the transparency within the technology appraisal programme, the comments received on review proposals from consultees and commentators will be published **in full** on the NICE website (with any C-i-C and personal details removed). These will be available on the same website page where the review proposal and revision decision are published. Comment will be published at the same time as the review decision is published.

### 4.0 Process

Consultees and commentators will be informed at what point in the process their comments will be published on the NICE website, that their comments will be published in full and whereabouts on the NICE website their comments will be published. This will be communicated to them in the review proposal letter.

Cathryn Fuller, Project Manager, CHTE  
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