



Department
of Health &
Social Care

From Edward Argar MP
Minister of State for Health

39 Victoria Street
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Your Ref: RW44059

PO-1399802

Robin Walker MP

By email to: robin.walker.mp@parliament.uk

15.vi.2022

Dear *Robin*,

Thank you for your correspondence of 25 March to Sajid Javid about robotically assisted surgery (RAS) in Worcestershire. I apologise for the delay in replying.

I read the correspondence with care and appreciate your concerns. NHS England is the commissioner of RAS for a limited number of urological cancer procedures. More information can be found at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/spec-services/npc-crg/group-b/b03/>.

The Midlands specialised commissioning team has reviewed the regional uptake of robotic assisted prostatectomy, including in Worcestershire, and has shared the information with the integrated care board through the collaborative commissioning boards. The specialised commissioning team is working with Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust and local commissioners to finalise a business case by this summer to propose the establishment of an RAS service in Worcester.

In March, Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust issued a press release that sets out the plans for RAS technology at Alexandra Hospital. This is available at <https://www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/news-and-media/1077-plans-for-state-of-the-art-robot-assisted-surgery-in-worcestershire-take-a-significant-step-forward>.

I hope this reply is helpful.

EDWARD ARGAR MP