Policy:
The reversal of male and female sterilisation is not routinely funded by NHS NWL CCGs.

These policies have been approved by the eight Clinical Commissioning Groups in North West London (NHS Brent CCG, NHS Central London CCG, Ealing CCG, NHS Hammersmith and Fulham CCG, NHS Harrow CCG, NHS Hillingdon CCG, NHS Hounslow CCG and NHS West London CCG).

Background:
Reversal of male sterilisation is a surgical procedure that involves the reconstruction of the vas deferens. Sterilisation procedure is available on the NHS and couples seeking sterilisation should be fully advised and counselled (in accordance with RCOG guidelines) that the procedure is intended to be permanent. A vasectomy can be reversed, but reversals are not usually successful.

Female sterilisation is considered a permanent form of contraception. The operation involves cutting, sealing, or blocking, the fallopian tubes. This prevents the eggs from reaching the uterus (womb) where they could become fertilised, resulting in pregnancy. Female sterilisation can be reversed, but it is a very difficult process that involves removing the blocked part of the fallopian tube and re-joining the ends. There is no guarantee that the patient would become fertile again. The success rates of female sterilisation reversal depend on factors such as age, and the method that was used in the original operation.

References:

Link to Patient Information:
https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/contraception/female-sterilisation
https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/contraception/vasectomy-reversal-nhs/

References:
FSRH Clinical Guidance: Male and Female Sterilisation - September 2014