

Our Ref: PW/KJJ/FOI/0225/1207

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

21st March 2025

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

FOI-0225/1207

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received on 27th February 2025. We can confirm that the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board can provide the following information.

An anonymised copy of this response will be made publicly available on the ICB website. Please note the ICBs responses in blue.

- How is personalised care and support for people living with cancer delivered in the ICS.

Cancer patients routinely are offered a holistic needs analysis (or assessment) soon after diagnosis and this is the initial step in ensuring cancer patients have access to personalised care and support.

Clinical teams then use the holistic needs analysis to either directly provide, refer or signpost patients into the most appropriate services. This can include social prescribing in primary care.

- Is there a specific Living with Cancer (LWC) or Living with and Beyond Cancer Programme within the ICS

Living with and beyond cancer is not a single programme per se but is part of a number of other programmes. In 2024 / 2025 and 2025/2026, the ICS has supported 15 Primary Care Networks to introduce Cancer Care Co-ordinators. Each PCN was invited to identify the priorities for its area and some of these directly include support for people living with and beyond cancer.

For many patients with cancer, they are able to initiate follow up for themselves. This ensures patients with a living with a cancer diagnosis who have completed all treatment are supported to have a role in their own monitoring and identification of any symptoms or signs that indicate a need for further clinical follow up. This reduces the need for routine regular but inefficient face to face follow up.

- Is there a strategy or plan? Is this published, where can it be found? How is success measured?

The ICS does not have a specific strategy for living with cancer.

- Who leads the LWC Programme, is there a specific team, are these roles permanently funded? If not when will funding end.

This programme is led within the Cancer Team which is part of the planned care and cancer portfolio in the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent ICB. [The cancer team has one team member permanently funded and two current funded on a fixed term basis.

- How is delivery funded?

Within the ICB, transformation and supporting projects to improve support for people living with and beyond cancer is funded by the West Midlands Cancer Alliance. Direct services are largely funded as part of overall NHS service funding arrangements

- What engagement specifically with people LWC or people affected by cancer has been carried out since 2016.

The ICB has not conducted any formal direct engagement with people LWC as a specific initiative post pandemic. There was engagement prior to 2018 by Clinical Commissioning Groups.

We do have access to and are guided by engagement carried out at regional level by the West Midlands cancer Alliance.

At present we are delivering a community “cancer bus” programme – Over 3 weeks the bus will travel across the ICS patch and is open to all members of the public. The first day had over 200 attendees. We are capturing all feedback and public concerns and we will review all the information.

- If there is not a specific LWC Programme, has there ever been one? When did it finish? What were the reasons for not continuing the programme?

Living with cancer has always been part of the West Midlands cancer Alliance and Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent strategy and there has always been some projects related to this however in the period during and after the pandemic there has been a focus on recovery of waiting times and earlier diagnosis of cancer. We anticipate the LWC programme will be at the forefront of cancer strategies and plans going forwards

To request an internal review

You can request an internal review by contacting the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB FOI team by emailing; staffsstokeFOI@staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk or by post to the address at the top of this letter within 40 working days of the initial response.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board's FOI complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow

Chair: David Pearson MBE

Chief Executive Officer: Peter Axon



**Staffordshire and
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Yours sincerely

Vasileia Pitarokoili
Head of Governance