



**Staffordshire and
Stoke-on-Trent**
Integrated Care Board

Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI/0124/674

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

31st January 2024

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI-0124-674

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received on the 12th January 2024. 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 see our responses in blue below:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing on behalf of the Continuing Healthcare Alliance to request information about NHS continuing healthcare applications made to the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board (ICB) for the 2022/23 financial year.

Please can you tell me:

- 1. The total number of**
 - a) standard applications**

1,507

- b) fast-track applications that were made to your ICB for NHS continuing healthcare funding?**

1,868

2. How many of those standard applications were
a) negative (did not meet criteria)

163

- b) positive (did meet criteria) but did not proceed to full assessment?

391

3. How many of the standard applications proceeded to a full assessment of needs?

953

4. Of those that went to full assessment, how many standard applications involved an in person face-to-face meeting with the applicant?

They are all face-to-face unless there are exceptional circumstances, then an assessment may be conducted by Teams.

Following a full assessment of needs, can you tell me:

5. How many applications were assessed as ineligible for NHS continuing healthcare funding?

1,115

- a) Of those, how many involved an in person face-to-face meeting with the applicant?

Patients are always involved but if they have capacity and are declining, or lack capacity and deemed in best interests, then they are not required to be there as per the CHC Framework.

6. How many were eligible for NHS continuing healthcare?

427

- a) Of those, how many involved an in person face-to-face meeting with the applicant?

Patients are always involved but if they have capacity and are declining, or lack capacity and deemed in best interests, then they are not required to be there as per the CHC Framework.

7. Does your ICB always involve specialists in the assessment of the specific medical condition that the person being assessed for NHS continuing healthcare presents with? For example a Parkinson's nurse, an MS specialist nurse, a neurologist etc.

If a specialist healthcare professional is involved in the patient care, this will be outlined within the initial checklist referral. This healthcare professional will be invited to attend the assessment or provide any appropriate document, as required, to support a recommendation at DST.

8. What is the minimum level of training NHS continuing healthcare assessors undertake to understand needs associated with a range of complex long-term conditions?

Aside from being a Registered Nurse, induction periods are one month. There is mandatory CHC training completed through 'e-lfh' and there is continued development and training throughout his or her career.

9. Please can you complete the table below to show how many applications were completed in relation to the different timescales?

	Less than 4 weeks	4 - 8 weeks	8 - 12 weeks	12 - 26 weeks
Checklists	407	503	127	63
Full Assessment	483	3	0	1
Applications for review	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are dissatisfied with the response, you are entitled to request an internal review which should be formally requested in writing and must be within two calendar months from the date this response was issued.

To request an internal review

You can request an internal review by contacting the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board FOI team by emailing the team at StaffsStokeFOI@staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk or by post to the address at the top of this letter.

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
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Paul Winter
Associate Director of Corporate Governance