



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

Our Ref: PW/SJR/FOI/0125/1147

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

27th January 2025

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI-0125/1147

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Further to your request for additional information, received on the 16th January 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 see our responses in blue below:

Has the health board utilised digital sedation during any procedures etc.? For clarification, digital sedation is where a patient is provided with a headset which project images for them to look at during a procedure. This is with a view to hypnotising or otherwise distracting the patient from any discomfort or pain during the procedure. I define digital sedation as 'a method for reducing pain and anxiety before, during and after medical procedures. This digital therapy combines clinical hypnosis and integrative therapeutic techniques through virtual reality', with an example [here](#).

If possible can you please share details of what digital sedation apparatus the health board has used?

Also, please give details of the types of procedures that digital sedation was used for and how many times it has been used in EACH of the last five financial years.

Does the health board own any such apparatus? If so, please detail any associated costs, i.e. purchase or hire.

If the health board has not used digital sedation, can you tell me if this is something the health board is considering?

Please be advised that the ICB does not hold any of the information requested above. We advise that you redirect your enquiry to relevant NHS provider trusts who administer this level of care.

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.

Chair: David Pearson MBE

Chief Executive Officer: Peter Axon

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
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Paul Winter
Associate Director of Corporate Governance