

Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI-04-358

4th May 2023

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

FOI-04-358

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received on the 27th April 2023. We can confirm that the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board can provide the following information.

Please see our responses in blue below:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, can you provide the following information:

- 1. A record and minute from any meeting of the ICB which discussed how to ensure best practice is shared between each Sub-ICB Location (SICBL)?**

We have created no SICBLs. All NHS commissioning decisions are retained at Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB level so no discussions of this type have occurred. We have though established 25 Primary Care Networks who do undertake sharing of clinical best practices etc. Although these are entirely separate to the ICB in FOIA terms, and PCNs as such are not a "Public authority" under FOIA, the lead GP Practice within a PCN is available is.

Details of these are available on our website (see link below) as to how to make contact with the PCNs about what they may have shared between themselves.

<https://staffsstokeics.org.uk/your-health-and-care/your-primary-care/primary-care-networks/>

- 2. What policies does the ICB have in place to ensure that patients have access to the best care within the ICS, regardless of where they live in that area; and how many patients have had care commissioned within ICS, but outside of their local Sub-ICB Location (SICBL)?**

All ICB-owned commissioning policies are publicly available on our website – Link: [Our publications and policies - Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent \(icb.nhs.uk\)](https://www.icb.nhs.uk/publications-and-policies)

Available NHS data on how many patients from our ICB are treated outside our ICB footprint's catchment area are publicly available on the NHS England website link as follows: [NHS England](#) – using either Hospital Episodes Statistics or Hospital Activity web pages.

3. Any analysis completed by the ICB on the impact on patients following the integration of its SICBLs?

We have not undertaken any such analysis since the Clinical Commissioning Groups were abolished on 30th June 2022; and we became the ICB on July 1st 2022. We do though undertake Quality and/or Equality Impact Assessments for any new commissioning or commissioning policy proposals. However, we do not generally make these available under our Disclosure Scheme as there is no expectation for us to. If however you wish to obtain one for a specific clinical area, then a new FOI request noting that more precise analysis will be required.

4. What policies does ICB have that are aimed at tackling a) the impact of deprivation on patients and b) inequalities in line with the Core20Plus5 framework?

As noted for (2), all clinical commissioning policies are on our website. As will be the ICB's Health Inequalities strategies, once agreed by the Board and available for public availability.

Right of Appeal

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