



Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI-06-411

16th June 2023

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park  
Weston Road  
Stafford  
ST18 0BF

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

**FOI-06-411**

**Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for your request for information received on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023. 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, can you provide the following information:**

- 1. What criteria did Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent ICS use to decide on the specific procedures, methodologies and equipment that would be used to complete the surgeries delivered by the [surgical hubs](#) commissioned by the Integrated Care System?**

Integrated Care Systems were invited to bid for funds to support elective recovery by NHS-E including the creation of elective hubs. The application process was largely led by NHS-Trust providers as they were best placed to understand their needs in terms of facilities to support treating patients that were sitting in so-called backlogs. The Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICS did not receive designated funding for the creation of a surgical hub as described in the link included within your information request. However, University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) received funding to enhance their capacity at County Hospital, which was used to create additional capacity for day-case surgery.

These services were already commissioned and contracted by the ICB, and the additional capacity was not technically commissioned separately. The funding allocated by NHSE-E will have been used in accordance with the business case on which it was granted.

- 2. What public and patient consultation did Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent ICS carry out surrounding the specific procedures, methodologies and equipment that would be used to complete the surgical interventions delivered by the surgical hubs commissioned by the Integrated Care System; and can the ICS share any assessment, analysis or reporting done following this consultation?**

No public consultation has been carried out, as no surgical hubs have been commissioned by the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent system as above. The additional capacity was implemented in accordance with the terms of the business case submitted.

- 3. What discussions or analysis has Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent ICS had or conducted on the need to adjust the way surgeries are delivered by the surgical hubs commissioned by the ICS, to make the delivery more efficient; and can the ICS share minutes of any discussion, or a copy of any analysis conducted?**

The ICS is a collaboration on organisations from across the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent geography working to achieve common goals and ambitions. The various organisations that make up the ICS will have responsibility for improved efficiency and productivity and the individual organisations will use nationally validated tools and guidance that set out the mechanisms for achieving this. Analysis has not been undertaken by the ICS nor are any minutes available. For further information it is advised to seek the information from the individual NHS Trusts.

- 4. Which specific procedures are conducted by Healthcare Professionals within each surgical intervention available in the surgical hubs commissioned by Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent ICS; and b) can the ICS provide a list of any applicable NICE Guidance followed within the surgeries carried out in the surgical hubs commissioned by Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent ICS?**

As stated above, the ICS has not commissioned any surgical hubs and therefore a list of the procedures undertaken cannot be provided. However, all provider contracts held by the ICB include a requirement for providers to comply with NICE guidance.

### **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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

**Paul Winter**  
**Associate Director of Corporate Governance**