



Our Ref: PW/TLR/FOI/1024/1016

10th October 2024

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

FOI-1024-1016

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received on Tuesday 1st October 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:

We are requesting the following information from all ICBs in England.

1. How have you spent the women's health hub financial allocation from NHS England? <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/womens-health-hubs-information-and-guidance/womens-health-hubs-core-specification> Please provide a breakdown on how this money has been spent and on what services.

- One of the priorities during 2023/24 for Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent (SSOT) ICB was to ensure harmonisation of access to Tier 3 community Gynaecology service, the first year's allocation of funding, c£300k supported this harmonisation to be achieved.
- The second year of funding has been aligned to develop the Primary Care Network (PCN) Women's Health Hub model which will further develop and integrate women's services in the community. SSOT ICB have invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) from our PCNs. We are currently evaluating the EOI and aligning the full two years funding to them.

2. Please describe your approach to provision of a women's health hub in your area.
As above.

3. How have you promoted this to women in your area?

The Primary Care Networks (PCNs) intend to develop various promotional materials and web / social media.

4. What, if any, women's health budget are you yet to spend from this allocation?

Until the EOIs have been fully evaluated and finding aligned we are unable to state if all the funding will be utilised, however we are aware that we have received five EOIs that have request 50% or more of year twos allocation, so it is anticipated that all the funding will be aligned to PCN EOIs.

- 5. Have you determined how you will spend this yet and if so, please provide details.**
As above.
- 6. Have you allocated any further funding to improve women's health services in the coming year?**
The ICB has identified c£1m for the expansion of the community gynae service.
- 7. How did you determine how to spend the two-year allocation?**
As women's health hubs are intended to improve accessibility in the community, the funding was directed to community and primary care.
- 8. What was the governance process for this decision?**
The procurement of an expanded community gynae service and the required budget went through various committees as per the ICB governance process. PCNs were invited to submit EOIs.
- 9. How did you involve local women in this process?**
SSOT ICB was formed by six former CCGs coming together. Previous to this the six CCGs worked as three Localities; each locality was formed of two CCGs. One locality commissioned a Tier 3 Community Gynaecology service, which had been well reviewed. One of SSOTs was to prioritise harmonisation of access of services and Gynaecology was the first service that is now countywide delivered.
- 10. What did local women tell you they needed to improve their health and wellbeing?**
SSOT have reviewed Health Inequality information. Based on this data SSOT have invested the Women's Health Hub funding to address some of the inequalities. When any of our population has been surveyed one of the main responses has been "care closer to home", by harmonising community gynaecology services and investing in PCNs we are able to achieve this.
- 11. Once the two-year allocation for women's health is spent, how do you propose to continue to support women's health and wellbeing?**
The community gynae service has identified recurrent funding and has been commissioned on a three-year (+2) basis. The PCN development funding is largely for activities that are unlikely to need a recurrent funding source.
- 12. Are there any reports on women's health that you can share?**
Public Health are in the process of doing a women's health needs assessment, this is due to be completed during Q4 of the 2024/25 financial year and will be published once approved on SSOTs website.
- 13. Do you have a one stop shop approach to women's health? If yes, please can you provide details. If no, why not?**
The community gynae service is commissioned via a one stop shop model with assessment, diagnostics and treatment commenced in the same appointment where clinically appropriate.
- 14. Would you be interested in finding out more about a clinically developed service which includes signposting to women's health advice and charities, a forum for women to discuss women's health issues, online and face-to-face information sessions with a GP, coaching services to support women?**

Our PCN bids have identified this as an area for development in their bids and the ICB is unable to provide any further funding.

- 15. Please provide the name and contact details (email and phone) for your lead commissioner for women's health within your ICB, your women's health champion, the director responsible for women's health, and the person on your governing body with a special interest in/responsibility for women's health.**

Phil Smith, Exec Director for Chief Delivery Officer, enquiries@staffsstoke.nhs.uk

- 16. Do you have a women's health strategy or plan in place? Please share.**

Not at present.

- 17. Do you plan to develop a women's health strategy or plan and if yes, what is the timescale for this and how do you plan to involve women in its development?**

This is still to be confirmed.

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.

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