



Our Ref: PW/SR/FOI/1024/1058

14th November 2024

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

FOI-1024/1058

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received on Wednesday 6th November 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:

I am writing to you to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

As you will be aware Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) are classified as public bodies and as such are required to adhere to the guidance published by HM Treasury (HMT) relating to their expenditure on any company, individual or organisation which is greater than £25k (commonly known as “Spend over £25k” data)

**For reference you can find the guidance – which is still extant - published here:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a82ea68ed915d74e6238468/guidance_for_arms_length_bodies.pdf**

As part of a project to understand expenditure by ICBs on the private sector we have reviewed all 42 ICB websites to determine whether they publish full data for each month of the financial year 2023/24 in CSV format as is required by the guidance.

Based on our review of your website it does not appear that Staffordshire and Stoke ICB publishes its spend over £25k data in the CSV format which is required by para 2.26 of the HMT guidance.

If this is the case, out of the 42 ICBs your ICB is just one of two ICBs which isn't compliant with the guidance in this respect.

I am therefore asking you to provide data on spend over £25k for the financial year 2023/24 broken down by month and provided in CSV format.

Given the fact that the ICB is an outlier in publishing financial transparency data in the correct forma and is also in breach of HMT guidance, we consider it unlikely that the

ICO would side with the ICB in the event that we were to refer the case to them for adjudication.

While the ICB does not publish the Over £25k Transparency Report in CSV format, it does provide it as an Excel file, ensuring both readability and analytical utility across various programs. This format facilitates effective data analysis and serves the informational needs of a wide range of audiences.

For the purposes of this FOI request, we have attached a version in CSV format.

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

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