

Our Ref: PS/AKB/FOI/0124/664

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

29th January 2023

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI-0124-664 re FOI/12/660

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for raising your concerns and we appreciate your patience whilst we looked into your concerns.

NUPAS have informed the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB that they do have other clinics that offer surgical terminations, however, as you rightfully have stated they only have one clinic that undertakes late gestational surgical terminations. NUPAS Stockport offers one surgical list a week for termination of pregnancy up to 23 weeks and 6 days gestation.

NUPAS have stated that they only seek other providers when women have medical complexities or if the patient is so close to the limit that they will have surpassed the legal limit by the next surgical list. NUPAS contact multiple providers simultaneously to maximise the patient's chance of securing an appointment. Ultimately, the provider closest to the patient's home address and able to offer an appointment will generally be the deciding factor. On both occasions, the two women that were referred to you, your service was the closest NHS provider.

I would be grateful if you could confirm whether your service accepted both these women believing that they were both medical complex women, or if they were late gestation terminations with no complexity or were a combination of medical complexity and a late gestation?

Once again thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention we will continue to work with NUPAS to ensure that Staffordshire women that require terminations are able to receive the care and support as close to home as feasibly possible and in keeping with NICE guidance.

Yours sincerely

Phil Smith
Chief Delivery Officer