



**Staffordshire and  
Stoke-on-Trent**  
Integrated Care Board

Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI/0524/825

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park  
Weston Road  
Stafford  
ST18 0BF

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

**FOI-0524-825**

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

Thank you for your request for information received on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 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:

**Introduction:**

The NICE Hypertension Guidelines recommend that adult patients with hypertension are referred to Secondary Care Hypertension Specialists when further investigations are likely to change management decisions, where there is associated life-threatening target organ damage or when patients have suspected secondary hypertension, hypertension resistant to treatment or where they have complex polypharmacy. These details have been summarised in our attached position paper published in the Journal of Human Hypertension (9 January 2024); [Adult hypertension referral pathway and therapeutic management: British and Irish Hypertension Society position statement \(bihsoc.org\)](#)

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Within your ICS/ICB, which secondary/tertiary care centres are recognised as providing expert advice on the management of hypertension?

Please state the names of the Departments or Units and the lead specialists for the services including their institutional addresses, and whether these services are commissioned by the individual ICB's.

**University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Trust**  
<https://www.uhdb.nhs.uk/freedom-of-information-foi/>

**University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust**  
<https://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/contact-us/>

**The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust**  
<https://www.royalwolverhampton.nhs.uk/about-us/freedom-of-information/>

2. **Within your ICS/ICB, to whom are patients referred who have had a past history of hypertension in pregnancy which is still elevated 1 year after delivery?**

**Please state the names of the Departments or Units and the lead specialists for the services including their institutional addresses.**

This information is not held by the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB. This can be obtained from the Trusts directly referred to in question one above.

The ICB holds an NHS contract with the Trusts for secondary / tertiary services, this is not an individually commissioned service.

3. **Does your ICS/ICB provide information to GPs about the availability of local secondary/care specialist hypertension services and who should be referred?**

GPs follow national guidance and there is information on clinics and referral criteria via the electronic referral service.

4. **Does your ICS/ICB consider that the provision of secondary care specialist hypertension services is adequate for the population served?**

The ICB is in the process of developing a CVD needs assessment which will assess and inform the provision of hypertension services across the system which we anticipate will be completed by the end of Quarter 3.

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**