

Our Ref: SY/AKB/FOI-02-256

23rd February 2023

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear Sir/Madam

FOI-02-256

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request dated the 15th February 2023. We can confirm that the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board does hold the information that you have requested. Please see our responses in blue below:

I have been unable to find all of the information I have been looking for in relation to the [NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB](#) fertility/assisted reproduction policy from your website or from previous FOI requests. Can you please provide the following information:

- 1. The [Fertility policy](#) currently available on the website is past the review date (March 2021) What policy is currently in use and can I get an electronic copy?**
- 2. If the policy is currently under review, what policy is currently used if someone would like to access fertility treatment on the NHS?**
- 3. Does the same policy cover the entire catchment area of the ICB?**

The Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board is in the process of aligning the historic CCGs' IVF policies. In the absence of an aligned interim policy, we are currently working to three separate policies. The policies are available on our website (links below):

<https://staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk/your-nhs-integrated-care-board/our-publications/governance-handbook/all-policies/commissioning/commissioning-policy-for-assisted-conception-stoke-on-trent-v3/?layout=default>

<https://staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk/your-nhs-integrated-care-board/our-publications/governance-handbook/all-policies/commissioning/infertility-and-assisted-reproduction-commissioning-policy-north-staffordshire-v2/?layout=default>

<https://staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk/your-nhs-integrated-care-board/our-publications/governance-handbook/all-policies/commissioning/south-ivf-2019-v2-4-south-master-26-june-2019/?layout=default>

We will be engaging with patients and relevant stakeholders on the draft interim policy, and we plan to hold a number of engagement sessions in March (dates to be confirmed and publicised shortly).

Further information on our engagement work to date can be found at [Clinical Policy Alignment \(formerly Difficult Decisions\) - Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, Integrated Care Board \(icb.nhs.uk\)](#)

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 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

Sally Young
Director of Corporate Governance