

Our Ref: PW/TLR/FOI/0725/1370

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

25th July 2025

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI/0725/1370

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, received on the 3rd July 2025. We can now 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.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I am writing to request information about adult mental health services in High Secure Units (HSUs), Medium Secure Units (MSUs), Low Secure Units (LSUs) and Psychiatric Intensive Care Units (PICUs) - specifically where these services fall under adult mental health commissioning (excluding learning disability or other specialist pathways).

From what I have read, services may be commissioned under a combination of spot contracts, out-of-area (OOA) placements, and block contracts, depending on the service type and provider. I am seeking to better understand the structure of commissioning and the associated payment flows.

Please provide the information separately for the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26 (Year to Date) for the following:

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB does not hold or manage the contracts for High, Medium and Low-Secure Unit provision. This is a specialised commissioning arrangement managed by NHS England and the Provider Collaboratives. The answers below to the following questions are in relation to PICUs only, as the ICB manages the contract for this provision.

1. Spot Contracts (excluding OOA)

- ***Total spend (in £) on spot-priced adult mental health patients***
- ***Total number of adult mental health bed days commissioned***
- ***Average fee (in £) per bed day, by type (HSU, MSU, LSU, PICU)***

The ICB does not have any spot contracts for PICU beds within the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB geography. All the PICU bed provision within this footprint is block contracted with our Mental Health Trust providers.

2. OOA Contracts

- **Total spend (in £) on out-of-area adult mental health patients**
- **Total number of adult mental health bed days commissioned**
- **Average fee (in £) per bed day per bed, day by type (HSU, MSU, LSU, PICU)**

The ICB does not hold any contracts with any providers for OOA PICU bed provision. If an OOA PICU bed is required, this is commissioned on a non-contracted activity basis. The total expenditure for the 24/25 financial year on OOA PICU beds was £1,124,090. The ICB does not hold the same information for the 25/26 financial year as an agreement was reached in August 2024 for the placing trusts to manage the finances for the spot purchase arrangements, and to recharge the ICB full costs.

The average PICU cost per bed day per bed is £1,025.

The ICB are unable to separate out individual bed days commissioned.

3. Block Contracts

- **Total value (in £) of the block contract for adult mental health services, by provider**
- **Total adult mental health bed days commissioned under the block, by type (HSU, MSU, LSU, PICU)**
- **Average fee (in £) per bed day under the block, by type (HSU, MSU, LSU, PICU)**

The ICB commissioned both MPFT and NSCHT to provide PICU provision. This is included in the overall block contract for all the services we commission these providers to deliver. We currently commission 7 PICU beds from MPFT based at St George's Hospital in Stafford. We also commission a further 6 beds from NSCHT based at Harplands Hospital in Stoke-on-Trent.

Please note that we have not completed the spreadsheet as requested due to the limited information the ICB is able to provide.

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 ICB FOI team by emailing; staffsstokeFOI@staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk or by post to the address at the top of this letter within 40 working days of the initial response.

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