



Our Ref: PW/TLR/FOI/1124/1083

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

3rd December 2024

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

FOI-1124-1083

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received on Monday 25th 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 would like to request the following information under FOI.

- 1. A copy of your ICB's pathway for assessment and provision of non- specialist Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), this includes tablet based devices, text to speech devices and apps but not equipment provided by the specialist hubs**
- 2. The number of patients assessed for a non-specialist communication aid in 2023 and 2024 (YTD)**
- 3. The number of patients provided with a non-specialist communication aid in 2023 and 2024 (YTD)**
- 4. Your budget for 2023 and 2023 for the provision of non-specialist communication aids**
- 5. If provision of non-specialist communication aids is on a loan basis, then how long is this for eg 3 months, or as long as required**
- 6. If you do not have a budget for providing non-specialist communication aid devices (e.g. iPads and tablets, text to speech apps, keyboard based communication aids) how should a local, community or acute based speech and language therapist working for your organisation make available assessment and provision of these devices for adults (18 or over) living with speech difficulties?**
- 7. The number of patients supported with a non-specialist communication aid via an individual funding requests.**

The ICB does not hold this information, in order to obtain this, you will need to submit your request to the providers, details below:

University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust; foi@uhnm.nhs.uk
Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust; foi@mpft.nhs.uk
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust; FOIREquests@combined.nhs.uk
Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust; rwh-tr.foi@nhs.net

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. This can be done by either writing to the address at the top of this letter or alternatively by email; StaffsStokeFOI@staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk.

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