



Our Ref: PW/KJJ/FOI/0125/1149

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

24th January 2025

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

FOI-0125/1149

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received on 20 January 2025. 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.

1. A copy of any current or previous policies, guidelines, or documents outlining referral criteria for hip and knee arthroplasty within your region.
2. Confirmation of whether the following factors are included in the referral criteria:
 - Pain severity as a key criterion.
 - Functional deficit as a key criterion.
 - Smoking status or Body Mass Index (BMI) as eligibility factors.
 - Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) and their role in the referral process.
 - Other specific criteria, such as minimum symptom duration, prior use of analgesics, or trials of conservative treatments like steroid injections or physiotherapy.

Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent (SSOT) ICB commission a Tier 3 community MSK service where GPs will refer all patients that are experiencing hip and knee pain discomfort or altered mobility unless the GP believes urgent assessment is needed or there is a suspicion of cancer. SSOT do not hold the information that you are requesting in relation to the referral criteria for elective hip and knee arthroplasty this would need to be requested from Midland Partnership Foundation Trust who is the provider of the Tier 3 community MSK service. [Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust: Freedom of Information: Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust](#)

SSOT do have an Excluded Restricted Procedure (ERP) Policy and within this document there are commissioning restriction in relation to arthroplasty. This is the link to SSOT's ICB ERP Policy - staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk/your-nhs-integrated-care-board/our-publications/governance-handbook/all-policies/commissioning/icb-excluded-and-restricted-procedures-policy-v3-1/?layout=file

To request an internal review



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

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.

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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

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