

Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI-12-198

9th January 2023

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

FOI-12-198

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request dated the 12th December 2022. 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:

With the new guidance that the department of health have announced that care homes can risk assess the wearing of masks within care homes.

As part of our risk assessment I require the below information;

Have you been advised by the local authorities about the significant increase of respiratory viruses transmission?

Is the local authority advising you to continue to wear masks at all times?

We can confirm that the ICB have ongoing contact with both local authorities, Staffordshire County Council and Stoke-on-Trent City Council. The advice being given is that it is advisable to wear masks when going into care homes, clinical areas and the general community to reduce the spread of infection.

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

If you are not satisfied with the response received, 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

Paul Winter
Associate Director of Corporate Governance