

Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI/11/625

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

6th December 2023

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI-11-625

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received on the 14th November 2023. 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 am currently focussing on Minor and Urgent eyecare services. I recently enquired from the ICB regarding the provision of Minor and Urgent eyecare in the community for which a response was provided.

From the queries I raised there was one very exciting response regarding equality of provision:

The ICB recognises that legacy commissioning arrangements have resulted in variation of service provision across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent (SSOT). SSOT currently exploring options on how to harmonise MECS/CUES services across our footprint.

I was wondering if you were able to provide me any more details regarding this, whether there were engagement opportunities for Primary care optometry at all, also whether there was a timescale for these harmonised solutions (mindful of where we are in the financial year 2023/2024).

Proposals for changes to service provision are subject to the ICB governance processed and as such we are unable to provide details, including timescales, currently.

Regarding engagement opportunities for primary optometry, there has been extensive engagement through the Local Eye Health Network (LEHN) regarding pathways and

models of care, including the expansion of the MECS/CUES services. The LEHN comprises a range of clinicians including Staffordshire Local Optical Committee who represent local Optometrists.

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

Paul Winter
Associate Director of Corporate Governance