

Our Ref: AKB/PW/FOI-09-110

5<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park  
Weston Road  
Stafford  
ST18 0BF

Dear

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

**FOI-09-110**

**Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for your request dated the 12<sup>th</sup> September 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

**I am seeking information regarding the ICB's non-emergency patient transport services and would like to obtain some clarity on the following please:**

**1. Is this means tested at all?**

For further information see [Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme \(HTCS\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-travel-costs-scheme/)

**2. How does NEPTS and the HTCS (healthcare travel cost scheme) work together?**

For further information see [Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme \(HTCS\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-travel-costs-scheme/)

**3. Is there a single budget for NEPTS and HTCS at ICS level?**

No, the ICS does not have a single budget for NEPTS and HTCS.

**4. What are the rates of reimbursement to patients?**

The rate depends on the size of engine and whether petrol/diesel/electric. Electric is 5p per mile. All rates can be found on the Government website as follows:

[Advisory fuel rates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/advisory-fuel-rates/)

**5. Are NEPTs payments handled by HTCS?**

Not currently. There is a guidance review currently underway. This may change once the review has been completed.

**6. What date is the contract due for renewal?**

The end date of the contract is the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2026, renewal date would be the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2026.

**7. Who is responsible for looking at the NEPTs guidance and implementing it within the Trust?**

Joint collaboration between the ICB – Commissioners and Finance, Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Support Unit – Contracts, Acute Trusts.

**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**

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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

**Paul Winter**  
**Deputy Director of Corporate Governance,**  
**Compliance & Data Protection/Data Protection**