



Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI-02-271

9th March 2023

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

FOI-02-271

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request dated the 28th February 2023. 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 a patient of Burntwood Health and Wellbeing Centre and have recently come to the understanding that the doctors surgery agreement/building is not up for renewal in 2024 when it is due to expire.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask what measures would it take to extend this as a doctors surgery so all the people that use it can be safe in the knowledge that they do not have to go to another doctors.

Burntwood Health and Wellbeing Centre was opened in 2009 as a temporary measure to support the local area with general practice provision. As more housing estates were erected there was not enough provision for the growing population. The practice is housed in a temporary building and as you will be aware is two portacabins placed on top of one another.

When the previous APMS contract was due to end in 2018 the preferred option was to disperse the list, however this was not viable at the time due to the estate restrictions of neighbouring practices and therefore a time limited APMS contract for 5 years (with no opportunity to extend) was procured. This contract is due to end at the end of March 2024.

Burntwood estate provision has been developed substantially over recent years thanks to significant financial investment, which includes the development of Greenwood Health Centre, in which Darwin Medical Centre now resides. In addition, a second Burntwood development is due to be completed in 2025. As a result of these developments, and in light of us reviewing the options for the contract moving forward, of which we are required to either reprocure the contract or disperse the list, we have discussed with the neighbouring practices who have now indicated having the capacity to accommodate patients from Burntwood Health and Wellbeing Centre when this contract comes to an end in March 2024.

From an estates perspective, as the patients will still be cared for within Burntwood and as health facility capacity will still remain an issue, the ICB will still be looking to utilise the temporary building that BHWC currently use once the contract ends. It is envisaged that the existing accommodation will continue to be used whilst the second Burntwood development is in progress.

We would like to assure you that the ICB has followed due process and can stand by the decision that we have made. The direction of travel for the CCG, and now ICB, has remained consistent over the last nine years. Burntwood Health and Wellbeing Centre was a temporary solution, which is reflected in the both the temporary nature of the accommodation and the length of the contract, whilst the estate in that area was further developed to accommodate the patients in the future.

The commissioning decision that has been made is based on our priorities of ensuring the best services for our patients delivered from high quality, fit for purpose buildings with the right resources.

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 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



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

Paul Winter

Paul Winter
Associate Director of Corporate Governance