



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

Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI/0124/680

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

26th January 2023

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI-0124-680

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Further to our response provided on the 19th January 2024, we now detail below an amendment to the information provided for questions one and two below as further information has become available.:

An anonymised copy of this response will be made publicly available on the ICB website.

Please see our responses in blue below:

Please find below questions about GP practices in your area and visa sponsor status. GP practices need to have obtained a visa sponsorship license if they want to recruit a GP from outside the UK who needs a skilled worker visa.

How many GP practices in your ICB area are licensed visa sponsors currently?

How many GP practices in your ICB area were registered visa sponsors 12 months ago?

Please be advised that the ICB does not hold up to date or complete information relating to this scheme. The information for the above two questions can be obtained from the public register of employers who hold a licence, please see the link below:

[Register of licensed sponsors: workers - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

[Register of licensed sponsors: workers – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Is your ICB actively seeking to increase the number of GP practices in the area that are visa sponsors? If so, how?

Chair: David Pearson MBE

Chief Executive Officer: Peter Axon

The Staffordshire Training Hub launched the GP Skilled Worker Visa Sponsoring practice programme in December 2022 to support Practices with the Home Office costs of up to £3,000 to be claimed retrospectively towards the costs of a licence, renewal licence fee or the GP Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS) fee and to date we have supported 23 x GP Practices.

Further information regarding the programme can be located at: [**GP SKILLED WORKER VISA SUPPORT FOR A SPONSORING GP PRACTICE PROGRAMME | Staffordshire Training Hub**](#)

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