

Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI-02-260

2nd March 2023

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park  
Weston Road  
Stafford  
ST18 0BF

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

**FOI-02-260**

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

Thank you for your request dated the 17<sup>th</sup> 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:

- 1. In which Primary Care Committee/forum was this discussed and what were the options put forward for consideration? How was a decision made without input from the caretaking GP?**

Primary Care Forum held on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023. The ICB options according to the contract was to either disperse or to re-procure the contract. Contract holders do not input to commissioning decisions as this is a conflict of interest.

- 2. If this was a meeting held in public, I am requesting the minutes of the meeting.**

Please find attached the extract from the Primary Care Forum held on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

- 3. Did a consultation take place with Drs, patients, public or any of the 2 neighbouring surgeries Darwin and Salters Meadow that will be impacted by the decision to disperse the patients from the Burntwood Health and Wellbeing Centre. Was there a consultation leaflet or email or written correspondence that can be shared?**

In these circumstances, formal engagement is not required until after the decision has been made.

- 4. What is the rationale for dispersal?**

The direction of travel for the Clinical Commissioning Group and now the Integrated Care Board has remained consistent over the last nine years. Burntwood Health and Wellbeing Centre was a temporary solution to support Burntwood patients whilst the estate in that area was further developed to accommodate the patients in the future. This was also in line with the end of the APMS contract date that was issued to Dr Agrawal in 2019 and no option for the contract to be extended was included within

that contract. Burntwood estate provision has been developed substantially over recent years to support with the growth of housing developments, which includes the development of Greenwood Health Centre, in which Darwin Medical Centre now resides. In addition, Burntwood North development is due to be completed in 2025.

**5. Has the proposal from the current caretaker to continue the contract or the Health Centre to become a branch of the parent surgery in Cannock been considered?**

The option suggested relating to reconfiguration sits within the re-procurement option, and the extension of the contract was not an option due to terms on which the contract was awarded.

**6. Is this a financial decision due to the temporary accommodation?**

This decision was not based on finance. 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.

**7. There was an agreement for the health centre to be merged into the new health centre that has been approved at Cherry Close, is this plan still live and how long will it take to build the new premises?**

The plan for the Burntwood 2 development remains in place and is due for completion in 2025.

**8. Was a needs assessment or feasibility study undertaken before the recommendations were made to the Primary Care Committee/Forum?**

This was not required. We used our own knowledge (and again is the reason why it was a time limited contract).

**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**  
**Associate Director of Corporate Governance**