



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

Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI/0424/777

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

20th May 2024

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI-0424-777

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your response following receipt of your letter dated the 13th May 2024 in respect of your request for information received on the 2nd April 2024 in which you were surprised by the limited amount of correspondence, particularly between the 14th December 2023 and the present date which had been provided.

We also note your query regarding the email of the 14th December 2023 and the request for the notes of the call referred to.

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:

Original request:

I am writing to submit a formal request under the Freedom of Information Act 2014. My inquiry pertains to any knowledge or information held by the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent ICB and has been triggered by a specific planning application related to the relocation or movement of a General Practitioner (GP) surgery within the jurisdiction of East Staffordshire, namely Mill View Surgery, Rocester, ST14 5JX. Planning application number P/2024/00251.

To assist you in processing this request effectively, please find the details outlined below:

Chair: David Pearson MBE

Chief Executive Officer: Peter Axon

1. I am seeking access to any records, communications, or discussions held between the Staffordshire and Stoke ICB and the respective GP (Dr S Poonian) regarding the proposed relocation or movement of the GP surgery. This may include but is not limited to:

- **Written correspondence such as letters, emails, or memos.**

Please find attached emails in relation to a proposal from the contract holder at Mill View Surgery.

Additional information

Section 40.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied in respect of personal information which is not available in the public domain, therefore it has been redacted as appropriate. A Public Interest Test is not required to be completed in respect of this exemption.

Meeting minutes or records of verbal discussions

No meetings or records of verbal discussions are available.

- **Any agreements, contracts, or proposals exchanged between the parties.**

Additional information

Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied to this request. The exemption covers two situations:

- When information constitutes a trade secret (such as the recipe for a branded product); or
- When complying with the request would prejudice or would be likely to prejudice someone's commercial interests.

Both parts of this exemption are qualified by the Public Interest Test which has been undertaken and a copy of which is provided for your information.

The link to the Information Commissioners Office FOI Guidance is: [Freedom of information guidance and resources | ICO](#)

2. **Intention of the ICB.** In addition to the above, I am interested in understanding the intention of the Staffordshire and Stoke ICB concerning the proposed relocation or movement of the GP surgery. Specifically, I would like to know whether the ICB intends to:

- **Establish a new GP surgery in addition to the existing one.**

A proposal has not been put forward to establish a new GP Surgery in addition to the existing one, should one be submitted the ICB would consider this through its governance processes.

- **Relocate the existing surgery to a new address, specifically Heywood Hall, Denstone.**

There are no current plans to relocate the existing surgery. A proposal was put forward by the current contract holder as per attached correspondence. Should a further proposal be submitted the ICB would consider this through its governance processes.

- **Any other plans or considerations regarding the provision of GP surgeries within the locality.**

The recent PCN Estate Plan process considered all estate within the locality.

3. **Are there any plans for an alternative use for the purpose-built premises, Mill View Surgery, Rocester?**

No

4. **Has any consideration been given for the knock-on effect onto Alton Surgery, considering local patient movement?**

When any proposal is put forward to the ICB for consideration it would consider the impacts on patients and surrounding Practices.

5. **Timeframe: Please provide information regarding correspondence and discussions between the Staffordshire and Stoke ICB and the GP that have occurred within the past 12 months. If there are no such records within this timeframe, kindly confirm accordingly.**

Information provided where held.

6. **Response Format: I kindly request that you provide the requested information in writing. Electronic copies of documents, if available, would be greatly appreciated. However, if hard copies are the only option, please advise on the process for accessing such materials.**

Information provided where held.

7. **Deadline: In accordance with the statutory requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, I respectfully request a response to this inquiry within 4 weeks from the date of receipt of this email. Please can you confirm receipt of this email.**

Completed.

Additional response to query of 14th May 2024

Please be advised that all documentation has been reviewed and we can confirm that no further notes / evidence of the proposed relocation or movement of the GP surgery is held by the ICB.

With regard to the email of the 14th December 2023 where a telephone call was offered, we can confirm that the offer was not taken up and therefore a telephone call did not happen as a result of the email conversation.

ICB standard policy is not to record phone or Team conversations, unless provided for in explicit data processing circumstances or due to certain legal obligations requiring the recording of business meetings. This is due to UK GDPR reasons (providing consent, data minimisation, storage and purpose limitation reasons). GDPR encourages UK businesses to limit the collection of personal data, both verbally and in writing. It does so because this protects individuals by limiting the amount of personal information in the hands of others, which could be subject to theft.

We can confirm that the Chief Medical Officer, Estates Team, Associate Director of Primary Care and the Governance team have been involved in the information gathering.

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 ICB can be contacted at:
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk



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Yours sincerely

Paul Winter
Associate Director of Corporate Governance