

Our Ref: VP/SJR/FOI/0825/1397

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

21st August 2025

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI/0825/1397

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, received on the 14th August 2025. We can now 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 note the ICBs responses in blue.

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, in relation to the NICE guideline NG73 on the diagnosis and management of endometriosis (published September 2017):

1. Referral Pathways and Initial Management

NICE NG73 recommends that primary care clinicians should consider endometriosis in women presenting with certain symptoms and outlines when referral should be made to a gynaecology service (Recommendations 1.1.1–1.1.3).

a) Does NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB provide specific guidance or care pathways to primary care providers regarding when to refer patients for suspected endometriosis?

SSOT ICB has produced a number of symptom based gynaecological pathways. The pathway provides guidance on when to refer patients for suspected endometriosis.

b) Do you monitor adherence to these referral pathways by primary care providers across your footprint? If so, please share any evaluation reports from the past 2 years. The SSOT ICB gynaecology pathways were approved in March 2025 and as such have not yet been audited / evaluated.

2. Access to Specialist Endometriosis Services

NG73 recommends referral to a specialist endometriosis service in cases of deep endometriosis or where initial treatment has been unsuccessful (Recommendation 1.4.1).

a) Which specialist endometriosis centres or services are commissioned by NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB for patients requiring advanced care?

NHSE commission specialist services. The acute NHS Trust situated in Staffordshire is University Hospital of North Midlands (UHNM) and this is an accredited specialist centre. [Find BSGE Accredited Endometriosis Centres in the UK](#)

SSOT patients are often referred to gynaecology services within University Hospital of Derby and Burton (UHDB), Royal Wolverhampton and hospitals within Birmingham. Each of these areas have accredited endometriosis centres.

b) What is the current average and longest recorded waiting time for a referral from primary care to a specialist endometriosis service within NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB?

The ICB does not hold clinic level data, you will need to re-direct your request to the acute trust providers. The majority of women in SSOT choose to attend one of the four following providers:

- University Hospital of North Midlands (UHNM) - foi@uhnms.nhs.uk
- University Hospital of Derby and Burton (UHDB) - uhdb.foi@nhs.net
- Royal Wolverhampton trust (RWT) - rwh-tr.foi@nhs.net
- Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital (BWCH) - bwc.freedomofinformation@nhs.net

3. Multidisciplinary Care and Support

NICE recommends that specialist endometriosis services include a multidisciplinary team (MDT) of gynaecologists, surgeons, pain management specialists, fertility experts, and others as appropriate (Recommendation 1.4.2).

a) Do the specialist services commissioned by NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB include access to a full MDT as specified in the NICE guidance?

This information can be found on the following website [Find BSGE Accredited Endometriosis Centres in the UK](#)

b) How many patients have been referred to an MDT for endometriosis-related care in the past 12 months?

SSOT ICB do not hold this data. The majority of SSOT women that need endometriosis care attend one of the four Trusts below, for this information you will need to contact the hospital sites directly:

- University Hospital of North Midlands (UHNM) - foi@uhnms.nhs.uk
- University Hospital of Derby and Burton (UHDB) - uhdb.foi@nhs.net
- Royal Wolverhampton trust (RWT) - rwh-tr.foi@nhs.net
- Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital (BWCH) - bwc.freedomofinformation@nhs.net

4. Surgical Expertise

The guideline states that excision or ablation of endometriotic lesions should be performed only by practitioners with appropriate training and experience (Recommendation 1.5.3).

a) Does NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB maintain oversight or assurance mechanisms to ensure endometriosis surgery is carried out by appropriately qualified professionals?

This forms part of the British Society of Gynaecological Endoscopy accreditation process.

b) How many patients underwent laparoscopic surgery for endometriosis in the last 12 months within NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB area?

For the period June 2024 to May 2025 (12 months) - 609 patients

5. Awareness and Education

NICE emphasises the importance of raising awareness of endometriosis among healthcare professionals (Recommendation 1.1.4).

a) Has NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB conducted or funded any training or awareness campaigns on endometriosis for primary or secondary care professionals since 2020? If so, please provide details.

The North Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent CCGs held a Gynae practice learning event on the 19th November 2020 which covered Pelvic Pain Endometriosis/ Endometriosis this was provided by UHNM Gynaecology Consultant and Endometriosis specialist.

The Staffordshire Training Hub provided a Session on Endometriosis on the 5th May 2021, the company who provided was NB Medical.

SSOT ICB has provided funding for training and education for women's health related topics in 2025/26 but not specifically for endometriosis.

6. Data Collection and Audit

a) Does NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB collect any data or conduct audits specifically relating to endometriosis diagnosis, treatment, or outcomes?

SSOT ICB has not conducted any specific audits in relation to endometriosis.

b) If so, please provide the most recent audit results or performance data available.

Not applicable as none carried out.

I am also writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, in relation to the NICE guideline NG157: *“Joint Replacement (Primary): Hip, Knee and Shoulder”* (February 2020). The guidance provides evidence-based recommendations for best practice in the delivery of joint replacement surgery and pre/post-operative care.

1. Referral Pathways and Thresholds for Surgery

Related to Recommendations 1.1.1–1.1.5

a) Does NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB use any formal criteria or thresholds (e.g. Oxford Hip Score) to determine eligibility for referral to secondary care or surgery for primary hip replacement?

As part of the triage a person-centered assessment and diagnosis and treatment process for Musculoskeletal conditions takes place by a multidisciplinary team using a Shared Decision-Making model as per NICE Guidance.

b) Do you commission or support any "triage" services (e.g. MSK hubs, community physiotherapy) that must be accessed prior to secondary care referral?

Yes, the ICB commissioned a single point of access MSK interface triage service where all MSK referrals, except for patients that have been identified as a Faster Diagnosis Patient or have red flags, are assessed and managed prior to secondary care onward referral.

2. Shared Decision-Making and Information Provision

Related to Recommendations 1.2.1–1.2.3

a) Are patients referred for hip replacement routinely provided with NICE-compliant decision aids or written information on surgical options, benefits, risks and recovery timelines?

This information would need to be requested from our main provider trusts, named in response 2b.

b) Is shared decision-making formally monitored or audited by NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB or provider trusts?

This information would need to be requested from our main provider trusts:

- University Hospitals of North Midlands (UHNM) - foi@uhnms.nhs.uk
- University Hospitals of Derby and Burton (UHDB) - uhdb.foi@nhs.net
- Royal Wolverhampton Trust (RWT) - rwh-tr.foi@nhs.net
- Royal Orthopaedic - roh-tr.foi@nhs.net
- University Hospital of Birmingham (UHB) - foi@uhb.nhs.uk
- Nuffield Health - [Private Hospital treatment - Hospitals near me | Nuffield Health](#) you will need to submit their online form
- Rowley Hall Hospital - [Contact | Rowley Hall Hospital | Ramsay Healthcare UK](#) you will need to submit an online form

3. Choice of Implant and Surgical Technique

Related to Recommendations 1.3.1–1.3.7

a) Does NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB have any policies or contracts in place that influence which hip implants (e.g. cemented vs. uncemented) can be used by providers?

No, the ICB does not.

b) Do you require providers to follow NICE's recommendation to use implants that meet ODEP 10A* or equivalent standards for survivorship and performance?

Yes, we do.

c) Is data on implant selection and revision rates tracked across your providers?

No, it is not.

4. Enhanced Recovery and Length of Stay

Related to Recommendations 1.4.1–1.4.4

a) Are providers within NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB expected to follow an Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) pathway for hip replacements?

Yes, providers are expected to follow an enhanced recovery pathway.

b) What is the average and maximum length of stay for elective primary hip replacement surgeries in your area?

Average 2.36 days, longest stay 40 days

5. Post-Operative Rehabilitation and Follow-Up

Related to Recommendations 1.5.1–1.5.3

a) Are all patients offered post-operative rehabilitation (e.g. physiotherapy) following hip replacement?

Yes, they are offered post-operative rehabilitation.

b) Is rehabilitation routinely delivered in hospital, the community, or both?

This will depend on which hospital they choose.

c) What follow-up protocols are in place (e.g. physiotherapy review, outpatient check-ups), and at what intervals post-surgery?

The ICB does not hold this information, it would need to be requested from the providers named in response to Q2b.

6. Data Collection and Outcomes

a) Does NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB collect or review data on patient outcomes following hip replacement (e.g. PROMs, complication rates, revision surgery rates)?

Not on a routine basis.

b) If so, please provide the most recent audit or summary outcome data available for hip replacement across providers in your area.

Not applicable.

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 ICB FOI team by emailing; staffsstokeFOI@staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk or by post to the address at the top of this letter within 40 working days of the initial response.

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

Vasileia Pitarokoili
Head of Governance