

Our Ref: PW/KJJ/FOI/1025/1471

27th October 2025

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI/1025/1471

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 Thursday 16th October 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 text](#).

I wish to understand the testing and implementation of the outcome-based payment approach for NHS Talking Therapies (formerly known as Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT)) undertaken in your ICB area. To provide context, in the financial years 2017/2018 and 2018/2019, NHS England implemented a policy change relating to the reimbursement of treatment costs in NHS Talking Therapies. This relates to Local Pricing Rule 8 of the 2017/19 National Tariff, which required the adoption of an outcomes-based payment approach using the 10 national outcome measures collected in the IAPT dataset. The NHS England Strategic Finance team stated the 10 national outcome measures, and nominal weightings of each measure in the outcome element of the outcomes-based payment approach, include:

- Clinical outcomes - 50%.
- Patient satisfaction – 11.25%.
- Reducing disability and improved wellbeing – 10%.
- Employment outcomes – 10%.
- Patient choice – 3.75%.
- Access for BAME groups – 3%.
- Access for over 65s – 3%.
- Access for self-referrals – 3%.
- Access and waiting times standard – 3%.
- Access for specific anxieties – 3%.

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and NHS Talking Therapies service providers were supposed to shadow-test an outcomes-based payment approach from April 2017, with full implementation planned for April 2018.

Given the time period this information relates to, I refer to the following CCGs that transitioned into NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB:

- NHS Cannock Chase CCG
- NHS East Staffordshire CCG
- NHS North Staffordshire CCG
- NHS South East Staffordshire and Eastern Peninsula CCG
- NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG

Chair: David Pearson MBE

Chief Executive Officer: Simon Whitehouse

- NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG

Please could you provide the following information:

1. The date (year and month) each Clinical Commissioning Group region shadow tested an outcomes-based payment approach for NHS Talking Therapies treatment in the date range of 2008 to the latest available data.

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB do not hold this information, please direct to the three providers of the service during this time:

- Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust - foi@mpft.nhs.uk
- North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust - FOIREquests@combined.nhs.uk
- Starfish Health and Wellbeing - starfishacademy@sfhw.co.uk

2. The date (year and month) each Clinical Commissioning Group region fully implemented an outcomes-based payment approach for NHS Talking Therapies treatment in the date range of 2008 to the latest available data.

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB do not hold this information, please direct to the three providers of the service during this time:

- Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust - foi@mpft.nhs.uk
- North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust - FOIREquests@combined.nhs.uk
- Starfish Health and Wellbeing - starfishacademy@sfhw.co.uk

3. If all NHS Talking Therapies service providers within a Clinical Commissioning Group region adopted the change in reimbursement scheme at the same time. If not, which providers were selected for shadow testing, and when did all providers adopt the change.

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB do not hold this information, please direct to the three providers of the service during this time:

- Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust - foi@mpft.nhs.uk
- North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust - FOIREquests@combined.nhs.uk
- Starfish Health and Wellbeing - starfishacademy@sfhw.co.uk

4. If possible, the criteria/targets and associated weightings of the 10 outcome measures for each Clinical Commissioning Group region, once the outcomes-based payment approach was implemented from its introduction and each subsequent financial year up to the latest available data.

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB do not hold this information, please direct to the three providers of the service during this time:

- Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust - foi@mpft.nhs.uk
- North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust - FOIREquests@combined.nhs.uk
- Starfish Health and Wellbeing - starfishacademy@sfhw.co.uk

If possible, could you provide the information/data in a CSV/XLSX file in the following column format:

- Clinical Commissioning Group organisation/entity ID code.
- Clinical Commissioning Group organisation/entity name.
- The year when shadow testing of the new payment approach began.
- The month when shadow testing of the new payment approach began.
- The year when shadow testing of the new payment approach ended.
- The month when shadow testing of the new payment approach ended.
- An indicator of whether all service providers in the region participated in the shadow testing.
- NHS Talking Therapies service provider organisation/entity ID codes of providers not included in shadow testing (If not all).
- NHS Talking Therapies service provider organisation/entity ID codes of providers included in shadow testing (If not all).

- The year when the new payment approach was fully implemented.
- The month when the new payment approach was fully implemented.
- The criteria/targets and associated weightings of the 10 outcome measures for the Clinical Commissioning Group region (per financial year).

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