

Our Ref: TS/AKB/FOI-07-482

28<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park  
Weston Road  
Stafford  
ST18 0BF

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear Sir/Madam

**FOI-07-467**

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

Thank you for your request for information received on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023. 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:

**Please respond to this freedom of information request below**

**1. Do you fund bariatric surgery for people living in your ICS?**

Yes.

**2. Please list all the current criteria that are used within your ICS for funding decisions regarding bariatric surgery -For example, but not limited to, BMI cut-offs, type 2 diabetes status, time in Tier 3 weight management service, requirement for preoperative weight loss, comorbidities etc.**

The Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB does not apply any specific criteria other than bariatric surgery which should be provided in accordance with NICE guidance.

**3. Is there a commissioned/designated bariatric surgery service located within you ICS catchment? If not, where are people requiring bariatric surgery within your ICS typically referred?**

Like many consultant led clinical services, patients benefit from the “right to choose” in terms of provider. The majority of patients choose to be referred to their local Trust which is University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust, Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust and University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Trust. However, other patients do choose to go elsewhere.

**4. Do you commission a Tier 3 specialist weight management service? Is it located within your ICS catchment? If not, where are people within your ICS requiring Tier 3 weight management services typically referred?**

Not currently, however a service is currently being scoped. Tier 3 services are not typically consultant led and therefore the patient “right to choose” does not apply and in such circumstances service providers outside the ICS are not obliged to accept referrals.

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

**Tracey Shewan**  
**Director of Corporate Governance**