

Our Ref: PB/AKB/FOI-07-042

29th July 2022

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear Sir/Madam

FOI FOI-07-042:
Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request dated the 7th July 2022. We can confirm that Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board does hold the information that you have requested. Please see our responses in blue below / attached:

Would it be possible to receive the following information regarding your current wheelchair services and approved wheelchair repair services contracts for your ICB please? Understanding ICBs were formally created only recently and that you may not have updated contracts, this could be the collection of current contracts from your constituent CCGs.

1. Who is the current provider of wheelchair services (WCS)?

Opicare Limited.

2. What is the total value of the WCS contract?

The value for 2022/2023 is £2,551,027.

3. What is the duration of the WCS contract?

The current contract term is one year.

4. What is the end date of the WCS contract? When would the new tender be released?

The end date of the contract is the 31st March 2023. The ICB has not confirmed dates of a new tender at this time.

5. Who is the current provider of approved repair services (AR)? (if different from WCS).

There are no sub-contractors listed in the contract. The provider carries out their own repairs.

6. What is the total value of the AR contract?

Not applicable.

7. What is the duration of the AR contract?

Not applicable.

8. What is the end date of the AR contract? When would the new tender be released?

Please refer to question three above.

9. Were these contracts (WCS and AR) direct awards or tenders? Was there an option for direct award and what framework was accessed?

The original contract (2017) was via Procurement exercise; however, the current contract is an extension approved by the Governing Body.

10. Is specialist seating provision included in the WCS provision? If not, who is the provider, and what are the contract value, duration, end date and new tender release date?

Yes, this is included in the contract.

11. Is Children's and adult's wheelchair provision/ maintenance within the same contract? If not, could you please provide the requested metrics for each?

Yes, this is included in the contract.

12. What is the number of patients served? (Current number and contractual target).

3334 patients for 2021/2022. The ICB does not have a contractual target for number of patients seen. It is a block contract and KPI's are focussed upon patients being seen within waiting times once referrals received.

13. What share of the current WCS-AR expenditure currently spent by NHS facilities (i.e. insourced) will be tendered to outsourced providers in the next contractual cycle?

AR is included within the block contract arrangements with the current provider.

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 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 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

Paul Brown
Chief Finance Officer