

Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI-04-011-325

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park  
Weston Road  
Stafford  
ST18 0BF

Sent by email

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Dear

**FOI-04-011-325**

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

Thank you for your request of the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 requesting an internal review of our response sent dated the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 to your original request of the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023. for information received on the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

Please see our responses in blue below:

**With regard to the below freedom of information request and attached response, I would like to request an internal review as outlined as an option in your response. I believe that I am just within the two calendar months required to request this.**

**I am not happy with your response as it is a standard response. The NICE guidance for use of continuous glucose monitoring was introduced in March 2022 and so far no sign of being implemented in to a policy. This is denying people with diabetes the opportunity to improve our lives by accessing this technology and driving inequalities due to access in other neighbouring areas. NICE have also said this is cost effective.**

**Original Request:**

**NICE have updated the guidance on the use of Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) in Type 1 adults, children & young people and Type 2 adults. (NG17, NG18 & NG28) in March 2022. This guidance has been heavily championed by the NHSE clinical lead for diabetes.**

**This guidance now recommends much more widespread use of CGM devices in T1 & T2 diabetes.**

**Please can you tell me:**

- As it has been nearly 12 months since this guidance was issued, what plans the ICS/ ICB have to implement this updated guidance into a policy and what timescales you are working to?**

In relation to the updated guidance (NG17) Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent ICB are updating their current Flash Glucose Monitoring policy to include the addition of DexcomOne as an option for rtCGM. This is currently going through the ICB governance process. The timescales for this are September 2023.

We are working collaboratively with partners across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent and with other areas across the Midlands in relation to the implementation of the remainder of this updated guidance (NG18 and NG28). Further information will be released when available in due course, with any changes to the local guideline expected later in 2023.

- **What reasons can you give for not implementing this guidance so far and is NHSE aware of the reasons for the delay?**

While NICE guidelines are not statutory (unlike Technology Appraisals), it is important that the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board considers their guidelines, their application, and affordability, to support equitable and cost-effective use alongside completing priorities and opportunities. NHSE are aware of this and we are keeping them informed of our plans.

- **If you are not willing to implement the NICE recommendations in full in the next 3 months why would this be?**

As we have stated above, we are working with partners in relation to implementation of this updated guidance to consider the guidelines and all their implications and this may take longer to complete than three months. We would politely ask you to bear with us whilst we complete this process.

- **If your policy has been updated recently please can you forward a copy as part of your response?**

Please see responses above.

**People living with T1 & T2 diabetes in Staffordshire are experiencing inequalities in access to this technology as neighbouring areas such as Derby are now offering it in line with NICE. If the ICS response is unsatisfactory I shall be writing to the NHS England Clinical Lead for Diabetes, Healthwatch, Diabetes UK, my local MP and our local press.**

### **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](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

**Paul Winter**  
**Associate Director of Corporate Governance**