

Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI/0624/886

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

15th July 2024

██████████

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear ██████████

FOI-0624-886

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information received on the 25th June 2024. 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:

- 1. For each of the financial years (1 April to March 31st) 2021/22; 2022/23; 20223/24 please provide the names of any independent sector providers that had a contract for Ophthalmology services with the ICB?**

Having sought clarification, the information requested is in relation to cataract surgery specifically. The following HRG codes have been used to identify cataract activity:

BZ33Z
BZ34C
BZ34B
BZ34A
BZ32A
BZ32B
BZ30B
BZ30A
BZ31B
BZ31A

The following providers had a contract for cataract surgery with the ICB for the financial years shown:

- Community Health and Eyecare Limited from 01/10/2023 – 30/09/2024
- SpaMedica Limited from 01/11/2023 – 31/10/2024
- Optegra UK Limited from 01/11/2023 – 31/10/2024
- Ramsay Healthcare Limited (Rowley Hall and Beacon Park Hospitals) – financial years 2021/22; 2022/23; 2023/24

- 2. For each of the above companies which had a contract with the ICB and for each of the financial years stated above in Question 1 please provide the number of cataract operations provided by each company under the contract?**

Please see attached spreadsheet Q2 detailing information requested.

Please note that contracts with Community Health and Eyecare Limited, SpaMedica Limited, and Optegra UK Limited commenced mid-year 23/24 and activity data provided is for the full year, therefore the figures provided will be part non-contracted and part contracted activity.

Submissions to Secondary Uses Service (SUS) for Optegra are not comprehensive and therefore data provided from SUS would be inaccurate. Please refer to Optegra for a response.

- 3. For each of the financial years (1 April to March 31st) 2021/22; 2022/23; 2022/24 please provide the names of any independent sector providers that undertook Non Contract Activity for Ophthalmology services with the ICB?**

Please see attached spreadsheet Q3 Q4 detailing information requested.

- 4. For each of the above companies which undertook Non-Contract Activity with the ICB and for each of the financial years stated above in Question 2 please provide the number of cataract operations provided by each company on an Non contract Activity basis?**

Please see attached spreadsheet Q3 and Q4 detailing information requested.

- 5. Please can the ICB confirm whether it permits optometrists operating out of high street optical businesses to make referrals to any provider of NHS cataract care (NHS or independent sector) and please provide information on when (date) this policy was introduced?**

Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB commission enhanced pre-cataract assessment services which are delivered by community optometrists. As per our pathway, referrals for cataract surgery are sent to the ICB Choice and Referral team who ensure choice of provider is offered to patients and onwards refer as appropriate.

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'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

Paul Winter
Associate Director of Corporate Governance