

10 April 2018

Dear

Re: Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
Ref no: FOI-03279-B9J9-NS
FOI-03279-B9J9-SOT

Thank you for your correspondence dated 03 April 2018, making a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information which may be held by NHS North Staffordshire CCG and NHS Stoke-on-Trent CC.

You requested the following information and our response is detailed below:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, we would like to obtain the following information please:

1. The number of female cancer-related fertility preservation cycles funded in your CCG over the last 2 years from 1st January 2015 to 31st December 2017.

Our records document one for North Staffordshire CCG and zero for Stoke-on-Trent CCG.

2. Could you please state your criteria which you use to make a decision on funding.

Please see attached policies.

3. Does your CCG restrict funding for fertility preservation based on:
 - a. Age range
 - b. BMI
 - c. Previous children

Please see attached policies.

4. Do you still require fertility centres to fill in an exceptional funding application form?

No, we do require a written request, but the eligibility is clearly stated in a Commissioning Policy, so exceptional funding not required if the patient meets the criteria.

5. How long does it take for your CCG to process funding for fertility preservation?

Funding arrangements would not delay treatment for the patient, but we cannot give a definitive timeline.

6. What is the duration of storage that is funded by your CCG?

The duration for North Staffordshire is 5 years maximum, with annual review. For Stoke-on-Trent it would be 10 years maximum with annual review.

Right of appeal

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response, or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact the FOI team to discuss. However, if you remain dissatisfied with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision, this can be formally requested in writing and must be within a reasonable period of time (two calendar months) from the date this response was issued

Initially you should write to the freedom of information officer, either by email on MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net or post to Jubilee House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TR, specifying why you feel you have been wrongly denied access to the information requested. The freedom of information team will make sure your request is investigated by an independent reviewer who was not involved in the original consideration of your request and a written response will be provided within 20 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS North Staffordshire CCG and NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Copyright and the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations

Most of the information that we provide in response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 requests will be subject to copyright protection. In most cases the copyright will be owned by NHS North Staffordshire CCG and NHS Stoke-on-Trent CC. The copyright in other information may be owned by another person or organisation, as indicated in the information itself.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. The information may also be used for the purposes of news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example, by publishing the information or issuing copies to the public will require the permission of the copyright owner. For information where the copyright is owned by NHS North Staffordshire CCG and NHS Stoke on Trent CCG, please submit a request in writing stating:

- Name and address of applicant requiring permission for re-use of the information.
- Full details of the document/information required for re-use sufficient for NHS North Staffordshire CCG and NHS Stoke on Trent CCG to identify it.
- The purpose for which the document/information is to be re-used.

For information where the copyright is owned by another person or organisation, you must apply to the copyright owner to obtain their permission. However, if you require more information on copyright please see the ICO guidance which can be accessed via the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1151/datasets-foi-guidance.pdf>

Yours faithfully



Sally Young
Director of Corporate Services, Governance and Communications

NHS North Staffordshire CCG
NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG

◆ We are honest, accessible and we listen ◆ Quality is our day job ◆ We innovate and deliver ◆ Care and respect for all

Cannock Chase CCG Chair: Dr Mo Huda Stafford and Surrounds CCG Chair: Dr Paddy Hannigan
South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG Chair: Dr John James Interim Accountable Officer: Paul Simpson