



**Lancashire and  
South Cumbria  
Integrated Care Board**

Level 3, Christ Church Precinct  
County Hall  
Fishergate Hill  
Preston  
PR1 8XB

t: 0300 373 3550

[www.lancashireandsouthcumbria.icb.nhs.uk](http://www.lancashireandsouthcumbria.icb.nhs.uk)

Please contact: Access to Information

Team

Email: [MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net](mailto:MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net)

Direct tel: **01782 916875**

1<sup>st</sup> May 2024

**Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**  
**Ref no: FOI-3867-LSC**

Thank you for your request dated 14 February 2024 in which a response was provided on 13 March 2024. Following your request for an internal review dated 19 March 2024, please find enclosed an updated response:

Original request and response:

1. What the outcome was for the NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board discussions relating to the commissioning policy for “Ayres Sensory Integration Therapy ®” and what evidence this decision was based upon.

This information request stems from known discussions by then CCG in 2021, which are referenced on the following Local Authority monitored page: [Sensory processing - Lancashire County Council](#).

I have since emailed the NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board patient experience team and seen the current policy for Sensory Integration Therapy

**A link to the Commissioning Policy for Sensory Integration Therapy is available here - [Commissioning Policy: \(healthierlsc.co.uk\)](http://healthierlsc.co.uk)**

**The sensory processing position statement is available on the ICB’s website at the following link - [LSC Integrated Care Board :: CYP Sensory Processing Position Statement January 2024 \(icb.nhs.uk\)](#). This states that we recognise the importance of sensory issues and our aspirations for addressing them.**

**This policy itself is the outcome of discussions between previous Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG’s) within the Lancashire and South Cumbria footprint, before the merger of the ICB in July 2022. The Policy contains the rationale for the policy statement (See Scope and Definitions section) along with the evidence base (see References section).**

2. What decision was reached regarding the commissioning for provision of containment products for children with continence needs who meet the criteria outlined for such products in NICE continence guidelines?

This request arises from information given to me via email by the Team Leader from the Bladder and Bowel Team at LTHTR in November 2023

**Where the provision of continence products is indicated, the children and young person's board, on behalf of the ICB, expect supply to be strictly based on assessed clinical need. Assessments are to be carried out by suitably trained healthcare professionals and a daily allocation of products will be supplied to meet the assessed clinical need.**

**There are indicative numbers (based upon guidance from the paediatric continence forum) for continence products, however these are to be used as a guide only and not intended to be utilised as an absolute figure for providing products. It is also acknowledged that there may be a difference between the clinically assessed need and what the family see as the need.**

**Here a collaborative approach is anticipated from the outset, so families are part of the journey with the clinical teams. Product provision is usually for washable or disposable products. Where a combination is required please ensure clinical need is clearly evidenced.**

#### Updated request and response:

In my original request, I had specifically asked " what evidence this decision was based upon" in question 1. This information has not been provided.

Please can you urgently provide the information behind this policy and webpage update, as originally requested? I wish to understand the principles and evidence on which commissioners reached the conclusion that "the intervention does not accord with the Principles of Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness". This information is likely to include:

- The framework and question (s) used for their literature search eg. PICO

**We do not hold this information.**

- A short list of the literature reviewed by the Policy Group

**The evidence used is listed in the Evidence Review paper, which is attached.**

- The critical appraisal tools that were applied and considerations made as to the quality of the evidence

**The information is contained in the evidence review paper, where the evidence is presented in order of robustness and quality of evidence.**

- Notes from pragmatic discussions underpinning the written policy and recent website update

**These notes are attached within the following documents:**

**CPDIG Minute Extract, Equality Impact and Risk Assessment, Engagement Report.**

#### 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 40 working days from the date this response was issued.

**To request an internal review**

You can request this by contacting the FOI team by email at [MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net](mailto:MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net) or by post to Leyland House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TR, specifying why you require a review.

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 CCGs 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

**Professor Sarah O'Brien**

**On behalf of Kevin Lavery  
ICB Chief Executive**