

Our ref:  
Please contact:  
Email:  
Personal assistant:  
Direct tel:

9 July 2024

Dear,

**Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**  
**Ref no: FOI-4098-LSC**

Thank you for your request dated 12 June 2024.

We can confirm that the ICB does hold the information you requested.

Please find our response to your questions below:

1. My application to be on the Bid Application Panel regarding the future of Withnell Health Centre was not accepted. I would like to understand what criteria I did not meet.

**All applicants were asked to demonstrate they were a patient of Withnell Health Centre, had availability to take part throughout the month of June 2024, and to state whether they could take part and demonstrate they could take part objectively and without bias. There was no specific criteria as to who could and couldn't take part. Individuals were reviewed based on the information provided and previous correspondences with the local NHS in relation to the various Withnell campaign activities. An ICB board lay member, who was independent of the process, reviewed the process and recommendations of which of the candidates were the most suitable. As there were more than two of these, the successful applicants were selected at random using an online number generator.**

2. I would also like to be informed of total the number of applications of interest that were lodged.

**21.**

3. Apparently 2 random individuals (ICB's words not mine were selected). This does not sound like a very professional way of handling this important issue. I would like to know what criteria THEY met that I didn't.

**Please refer to the response within question 1.**

4. The ICB also informed me that in selecting the applicants it was about patient perspective and not representation (again their words, not mine and they also said that this was valuable ?)

My understanding of this statement is that the patient's representative would have zero power or influence in the final outcome of the ICB's decision. The ICB in my opinion made an undemocratic decision.

**The above is a statement and does not pose a question under the Freedom of Information Act.**

### **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 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

**Neil Greaves – Director of Communications and Engagement**

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