

Please contact: Access to Information Team

Email: MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net

Direct tel: 01782 872648

Chorley House
Lancashire Business Park
Centurion Way
Leyland
PR26 6TT

26 July 2022

Tel: 01772 214232
www.lancashireandsouthcumbria.icb.nhs.uk

Dear

Due to the abolishment of clinical commissioning groups, from the 1 July 2022 the information you had previously requested from NHS Blackburn with Darwen CCG and NHS Blackpool CCG is now held by the newly established Integrated Care Board for NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria.

Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
Ref no: FOI-2400-BWD and BP

Thank you for your request dated 6 July 2022.

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

Please find our response to your questions below:

Q1	<p>Your Question:</p> <p>Blackburn and Darwen & Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Groups, commission non-emergency patient transport from a number of ambulance transport providers. I would like to know when the current contract ends with all ambulance transport providers please.</p>
	<p>Our Response:</p> <p>Blackburn with Darwen:</p> <p>Due to the NHSE Level 4 command and control arrangements the commissioners for the ambulance service made the strategic decision to extend the Patient Transport service to provide continuity and stability of service following the pandemic. This contract has therefore now been extended until March 2023.</p> <p>Blackpool:</p> <p>Blackpool CCG previously commissioned patient transport from North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) for the county of Lancashire. As of the 1 July this responsibility was transferred to the Lancashire & South Cumbria ICB following the cessation of Clinical Commissioning Groups. The current patient transport contract was extended under NHS England Level 4 Command and Control arrangements and is currently due to expire at the end of March 2023.</p>

Q2

Your Question:

I would like to know the current annual financial spend on non-emergency patient transport please.

Our Response:

Blackburn with Darwen:

The NWAS Patient Transport service contract is held at a regional level. The value of the Lancashire and South Cumbria contract for 2021/22 was £12,122,169. As this value is based on contract level, the contract for all the Lancashire and South Cumbria CCGs is the same. The amount paid or the amount of activity each legacy CCG uses from that contract will differ as part of the wider contract. However, since March 2020, NHS contracts are within a block payment arrangement due to the NHSE Level 4 command and control status during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The value of the Blackburn with Darwen ERS Patient Transport Service contract held at a local level was £113,987 for 2021/22.

Blackpool:

The annual value of the Lancashire patient transport contract with North West Ambulance Service is £12,122,169.

Q3

Your Question:

I would like to know the non-emergency patient transport journey volumes on an annual basis and broken down into monthly elements please.

Our Response:

Blackburn with Darwen:

ERS data for Pennine Lancashire (Blackburn with Darwen and East Lancashire CCGs):

2022		2021	
March		March	470
February		February	466
January		January	479
December		December	496
November		November	502
October		October	429
September		September	426
August		August	397
July		July	368
June	387	June	413
May	397	May	399
April	424	April	497
Total	1208	Total	5342

Blackpool:

During the COVID-19 pandemic, reporting for patient transport was suspended with some PTS resource being redeployed to support front line 999 operations and the suspension of some clinics by Acute Trusts and other services. Service levels are starting to return to a more normal level and we have included the last 12 months' worth of activity information for the Lancashire and Cumbria contract.

LANCASHIRE AMBULANCE PTS ACTIVITY SUMMARY July 2021 - June 2022													
	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Full Year
	Month	Month	Month	Month	Month	Month	Month	Month	Month	Month	Month	Month	Annual
	Activity	Activity	Activity	Activity	Activity	Activity	Activity	Activity	Activity	Activity	Activity	Activity	Activity
Lancashire Planned	29,727	28,866	31,241	30,134	31,197	28,611	27,378	28,934	33,947	29,846	34,053	31,659	365,593
Lancashire Unplanned	3,056	2,955	3,020	2,902	2,866	2,832	2,636	2,795	3,043	2,707	2,809	2,703	34,324
Lancashire Weekend	579	549	508	594	468	429	532	440	411	428	447	394	5779
Lancashire Bank Holiday	0	96	0	0	0	135	42	0	0	157	45	188	663
Lancashire Total	33,362	32,466	34,769	33,630	34,531	32,007	30,588	32,169	37,401	33,138	37,354	34,944	406,359

Q4

Your Question:

I would like to know when the new tender date is for the non-emergency patient transport contracts to be commissioned by Blackburn and Darwen & Blackpool Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Our Response:

Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool:

The Lancashire & South Cumbria ICB has yet to make a decision as to the future of the present PTS contract. It is expected that a decision will be made by the end of Quarter 2 of 2022/23.

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 or by post to Jubilee 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

Yours sincerely

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