

Please contact: Access to Information Team

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

Direct tel: 01782 872648

12 September 2022

Dear

**Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**  
**Ref no: FOI-2488-L&SC**

Thank you for your request dated 10 August 2022.

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

Please find our response to your questions below:

Q1	<p>Your Question:</p> <p>Please list the pathology providers, including NHS organisations, which you used during financial year 2021/22 to provide GP direct access pathology services (list any provider with a spend in the year greater than £25,000)</p> <hr/> <p>Our Response:</p> <p><b>Chorley &amp; South Ribble: East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust.</b></p> <p><b>Greater Preston: East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, Alder Hey Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.</b></p> <p><b>Blackburn with Darwen: East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust.</b></p> <p><b>East Lancashire: East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust.</b></p> <p><b>Blackpool: Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, Alder Hey Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.</b></p> <p><b>Fylde &amp; Wyre: Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust.</b></p> <p><b>Morecambe Bay: East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust, Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.</b></p> <p><b>West Lancashire: East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, Alder Hey Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.</b></p>
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<p>Q2</p>	<p>Your Question:</p> <p>Please provide the amount spent with each provider on GP direct access pathology during the year 2021/22</p> <hr/> <p>Our Response:</p> <p><b>Chorley &amp; South Ribble and Greater Preston:</b> This data is not available as there are parts of GP direct access spend unaccounted for. The ICB cannot comprehensively report on this activity/contract, however, individual GP practices may hold more information - <a href="https://centrallancashireccgs.nhs.uk/about-us/our-gp-practice-members/chorley-and-south-ribble-ccg-gp-practice-members">https://centrallancashireccgs.nhs.uk/about-us/our-gp-practice-members/chorley-and-south-ribble-ccg-gp-practice-members</a></p> <p><b>Blackburn with Darwen and East Lancashire:</b></p> <p><b>£6,851,663 for East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust (East Lancashire CCG)</b>  <b>Nil for Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (East Lancashire CCG)</b></p> <p><b>£3,236,387 for East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust (Blackburn with Darwen CCG)</b>  <b>Nil for Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (Blackburn with Darwen CCG)</b></p> <p><b>Total Spend = £10,088,050</b></p> <p><b>Blackpool: £3,214,301 for Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</b>  <b>Nil for East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust</b></p> <p><b>Fylde &amp; Wyre: £3,199,968 for Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</b>  <b>Nil for East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust</b></p> <p><b>Morecambe Bay:</b> This data is not available as there are parts of GP direct access spend unaccounted for. The ICB cannot comprehensively report on this activity/contract, however, individual GP practices may hold more information - <a href="https://www.morecambebayccg.nhs.uk/local-services/gp-practices">https://www.morecambebayccg.nhs.uk/local-services/gp-practices</a></p> <p><b>West Lancashire:</b> Southport and Ormskirk Hospitals were paid £940,236 in 2021-22 for DAP although the actual tests were processed by St Helens and Knowsley Hospitals under a subcontract arrangement.</p> <p><b>Contractual basis of Direct Access Pathology at Southport is a 'block' payment, at the nominal prices we use actual 2021-22 activity which would have cost £983,682. Normally we would recalculate the block payment towards the end of a financial year on the basis of 12 months of activity (not necessarily a financial year) and DAP costs calculated from Reference Costs. The DAP Block for 2021-22 is based on actual activity for 2019-20.</b></p>
<p>Q3</p>	<p>Your Question:</p> <p>Please state which of following methods for calculating payment best describes the contractual arrangement between the CCG and each provider</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amount paid for direct access pathology not explicitly stated, ie included within larger overall contract</li> <li>Fixed payment amount for pathology agreed for the year</li> <li>Fixed payment amount agreed for the year, but adjusted if volumes are higher or lower than expected</li> <li>Payment calculated based on a cost per specialty, eg £X per blood science test, £Y per microbiology sample, £Z per histology case</li> </ol>

	<p>e) Payment calculated on a price per specific test, eg £X for Urea and Electrolytes, £Y for full blood count, £Z for MRSA test</p> <p>Our Response:</p> <p><b>Chorley &amp; South Ribble and Greater Preston: Option A.</b></p> <p><b>Blackburn with Darwen and East Lancashire: Option E.</b></p> <p><b>Blackpool and Fylde &amp; Wyre: Option D.</b></p> <p><b>Morecambe Bay: Option A.</b></p> <p><b>West Lancashire: Option B.</b></p>
Q4	<p>Your Question:</p> <p>Have the authority undertaken a procurement advertised via OJEU for GP direct access pathology during the past five years? If so, please provide link.</p> <p>Our Response:</p> <p><b>Chorley &amp; South Ribble and Greater Preston: No.</b></p> <p><b>Blackburn with Darwen and East Lancashire: No.</b></p> <p><b>Blackpool and Fylde &amp; Wyre: No.</b></p> <p><b>Morecambe Bay: No.</b></p> <p><b>West Lancashire: No.</b></p>

### **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 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](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

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

