

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

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

27 January 2023

Dear

Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Ref no: FOI-2780-LSC

Thank you for your request dated 12 January 2023.

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>I enclose screenshot of a service that the private provider HCRG provides it is called community care.</p> <p>Can you provide costings for each service provided in the screenshot under the CEO grip and control policy as it will show if we are getting VFM it cost against patients seen?</p>
	<p>Our Response:</p> <p>Whilst we can confirm that the ICB does not hold the information you requested in the format requested, after careful consideration, we have decided to refuse your request</p>

under section 14 Vexatious of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as this is a repeated request and a response has been provided to you previously in request FOI-2662-LSC.

Section 14 (1) is designed to protect public authorities by allowing them to refuse any requests which have the potential to cause a disproportionate or unjustified level of disruption, irritation or distress.'

Frequency of requests – the ICB has received 21 requests since 1 July 2022 of which 13 requests refer to HCRG private provider covered by Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB.

Pattern of requests – each repeat request that is re-answered by the ICB leads to further requests and/or internal reviews. This has a significant impact on our already scarce resources.

Impact on staff – the fact that each request answered leads to further requests, internal reviews and correspondence, is burdening staff in each of the services handling your requests. Whilst we absolutely have an expectation and a willingness to respond to FOI requests, the volume has become increasingly onerous.

For the reasons outlined in this letter we are issuing this refusal notice under section 14(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. If any further requests or queries are received regarding this topic, we will not be responding to these. You have the right to appeal against our decision; further information is provided below.

Q2

Your Question:

When was the last review/due diligence done on the community care service?

Our Response:

A section 21 exemption has been applied as the due diligence regarding this procurement is still publicly available on the archived WLCCG website:

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20220808102717/https://www.westlancashireccg.nhs.uk/how-we-involve-you/community-health-services/>

(This was also previously provided in request FOI-2664-LSC)

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**