

Please contact: Access to Information Team

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11 July 2023

Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
Ref no: FOI-3243-LSC

Thank you for your request dated 17 May 2023.

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

Please find our response to your questions below:

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act.

1. What electronic referral pathways are in place between optometry and secondary care within NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB?

All GOS referral pathways from Optometrist to secondary care are underpinned by the Eyecare Electronic Referral Service (EeRS) called OPERA across Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB.

In addition, there are a number of local commissioned pathways that are directed to community provider any onward secondary care referral pathway would be via electronic referral service (eRS)

2. What proportion of optometry practices are able to access each platform?

As of the 31 March 23 data shows that 85% of Optometrist across Lancashire and South Cumbria are currently onboarded onto the EeRS / OPERA system

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