

Please contact: Access to Information Team

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20 June 2023

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Dear

Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
Ref no: FOI-3082-LSC

Thank you for your request dated 20 April 2023

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

Please find our response to your questions below:

1. For the ICB and its predecessor CCGs, could you please provide the following information regarding cataract operations:

	2021-22	2022-23
Total Expenditure on Cataract Operations	£12,152,226.97	£16,795,305.19
Expenditure with independent non-NHS Provider	£7,498,563.12	£10,394,132.92
Expenditure on NHS Providers	£4,653,663.85	£6,401,172.27
Activity carried out by independent non-NHS providers	12,778	14,595
Activity carried out by NHS providers	9,833	8,898

2. Could I also ask the ICBs that were not able to provide data to our previous request (Columns D and R in the [dataset](#), where 1 indicates a partial data and 0 indicates no data) revisit this request, and provide the above data for the years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21.

N/A – a response was provided to this question in our previous response to FOI-2846-LSC

3. A paragraph or two summary of information the ICB holds on:

A) How pandemic pressures impacted spend on cataract surgeries or activity

Incomplete data sets and a suspension of routine contractual reporting during the pandemic make it impossible to analyse the impact of the pandemic.

B) How COVID block-funding affected spend on cataract surgeries or activity

Block contracts for NHS Trust providers during the pandemic were based on pre-pandemic activity levels and activity reporting is incomplete making the requested analysis impossible for ICBs to complete.

C) Any local factors which were particularly important to the spend on cataract surgeries or activity

In LSC there are multiple independent sector providers of cataracts surgery and the majority of the spend remains on this category of provider which was a trend which commenced prior to the pandemic.

Please note; the number and costs provided in the table below which, as pointed out, are incomplete due to different reporting/contracting during Covid.

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**