

Please contact: Access to Information  
Team  
Email: [MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net](mailto:MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net)  
Direct tel: 01782 916875

Level 3, Christ Church Precinct  
County Hall  
Fishergate Hill  
Preston  
PR1 8XB

18 December 2023

t: 0300 373 3550  
[www.lancashireandsouthcumbria.icb.nhs.uk](http://www.lancashireandsouthcumbria.icb.nhs.uk)

**Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**  
**Ref no: FOI-3668-LSC**

Thank you for your request dated 17 November 2023

We can confirm that the ICB does not hold all the information you requested.

Please find our response to your questions below:

Q1	<p>Your Question:</p> <p><i>I am writing in relation to news that the Government has refused requests from NHS England to allocate £1 billion to address the financial impact on NHS budgets from industrial action, and that NHSE has now told finance directors that c. £600m from the previously ringfenced "service development fund" for several improvement initiatives can be repurposed to support their financial plans.</i></p> <p><a href="https://www.hsj.co.uk/finance-and-efficiency/electives-and-capital-to-be-cut-after-treasury-refuses-1bn-strike-cash-plea/7035934.article">https://www.hsj.co.uk/finance-and-efficiency/electives-and-capital-to-be-cut-after-treasury-refuses-1bn-strike-cash-plea/7035934.article</a> <a href="https://www.hsj.co.uk/finance-and-efficiency/cancer-prevention-and-learning-disabilities-set-for-sensible-budget-raids/7035947.article">https://www.hsj.co.uk/finance-and-efficiency/cancer-prevention-and-learning-disabilities-set-for-sensible-budget-raids/7035947.article</a></p> <p><i>Under the Freedom of Information Act regulations, I would like to request the following information:</i></p> <p>- What is your estimated YTD deficit, and how much of this has been caused by industrial action?</p> <p>Our Response:</p> <p><b>NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB has reported at month 8 a year to date deficit of £50.4m. None of this reported deficit has been caused by industrial action as the financial pressure associate with this is included in the reported provider positions.</b></p>
Q2	<p>Your Question:</p> <p>In light of reports that NHS England has told finance directors that they can utilise underspends in the development of cancer, prevention, learning disabilities and autism</p>

	services, as well as dentistry, to manage this deficit, which areas have you identified for budget reductions this year, and by how much?
	Our Response:  <b>We are unable to provide a response to this request as we are currently working through the implications on our forecast financial position and are yet to finalise this with NHS England. Finalisation and agreement of the financial impact is expected to take place during January 2024</b>

### **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**