

Please contact: Access to Information Team

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5 December 2023

Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
Ref no: FOI-3474-LSC

Thank you for your request dated 25 August 2023, in which a response was provided on 20 October 2023. Following your request for a review on the same date, please find enclosed an updated response:

Original request:

In JUNE 2022 you sent me this FOI reply, you informed me that CCG will break even at the 30 June 2022 and receive the resources to deliver this so given that there is no CCG deficit.[see screenshot]

Looking at the current financial performance report [see screenshot] it informs me that the former CCG collected has deficit of £20.6

Can you explain.

Original response:

In our response to FOI-2392-LSC we advised that the CCG's would break even at the end of June 2022 and would receive the resource to deliver this. Therefore, the CCG would have no deficit.

Under section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the public authority needs to confirm if the information is held at the time the request was made. At the time the request was received the CCG reported a breakeven position in the draft accounts submitted and reported the break-even position. This was accurate at the time and reflected the CCG's planned closing position.

When the eight legacy CCG's merged and formed Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB, they all reported a break-even position. This was because the allocation aligned to each CCG matched the expenditure incurred in the reporting period at the time. The CCG's collectively consumed £20 million more of the annual allocation for the ICB which resulted in the ICB having £20 million less for the remaining nine months of the financial year.

Updated request:

I would like a review on this FOI as the ICB financial team informed me that there would be no deficit but it seem that there was over 20 million not accounted for what action is going to be taken on poor management due to no due diligence done before saying there would be no deficits as the resources have been allocated.

Can you provide with the time scale from saying there would be no deficit to finding you mislead me by finding there would be a deficit .

Updated response:

The ICB set one operational plan for the 2022/23 financial year amalgamating all 8 CCGs into one consolidated position. On 8 June 2022, CCGs were issued with regional guidance from NHS England that they should report the actual spend position at the end of June 2022 and expenditure would be matched with allocation to ensure all CCGs reported a balanced position.

Formal Guidance was issued on 1 July 2022 as the CCG finance teams commenced the closedown of the three-month accounting period.

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