

Please contact: Access to Information

Team

Email: MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net

Direct tel: 01782 916875

15 January 2024

Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
Ref no: FOI-3737-LSC

Thank you for your request dated 27 December 2023.

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

Please see your questions below:

1. Distribution Process and Criteria: What are the detailed processes and criteria used by the Lancashire ICB for distributing COVID-19 rapid lateral flow tests to pharmacies?
2. List of Locations: Can you provide a list of locations, with full addresses, where free COVID-19 tests can be obtained?
3. Quantity of Distributed Tests: Please provide data on the number of tests distributed to each location, broken down per month, since the cessation of the online ordering system via GOV.UK and 119 (from 26 September 2023).
4. Pharmacy Guidelines: What guidelines or policy documents have been provided to pharmacies regarding the distribution of these tests?
5. Compliance and Non-compliance Measures: What measures are in place to ensure compliance by pharmacies with the test distribution guidelines? How does the ICB handle cases of non-compliance?
6. Complaint Procedures: What procedures are in place for addressing complaints about pharmacies failing to provide free tests?
7. Data Handling and GDPR Compliance: How does the ICB process and protect sensitive patient data given to pharmacies for test distribution, in compliance with GDPR regulations? Please include details on the duration for which this data is retained and if any third parties are involved in the data processing.

This service is commissioned by NHSE and not NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB. As it is an advanced service not all pharmacies provide the service, as it is optional for them to do so. Please contact NHSE directly: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/contact-us/foi/>

We do hold a list of participating pharmacies, please see the attached PDF document.

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 40 working days 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 Leyland 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**