Please contact: Access to Information

Team

Email: MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net

Direct tel: 01782 916875

19 February 2024



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

t: 0300 373 3550 www.lancashireandsouthcumbria.icb.nhs.uk

Dear

Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Ref no: FOI-3787-LSC

Thank you for your request dated 8 January 2024

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

Please find our response to your questions below:

1. Haverthwaite Surgery is a GP Surgery in Cumbria and is owned by landlord Dr Robert Callingham.

Dr Callingham has issued us with an eviction notice so that he may convert the building into residential flats and sell.

The building was built circa 1998, just prior to the launch of PCTs. The then Cumbria Health Authority funded the build with taxpayers' money. This has been confirmed by local sources and several retired GPs as this was common practice at this time. As you will no doubt be aware, this has fraudulent implications, not only because the now ICB and former CCG have been paying Dr Callingham rental income for a property that is not in fact owned by him and one which he is about to sell and take profit from. I have been advised that all such documentation is housed offsite, normally with Iron Mountain.

Aside from the financial impropriety here, our whole patient community is about to risk losing their surgery and so the implications are massive.

I therefore respectfully request that records are located from where they are archived and that the information pertaining to the exact funds assigned to this building be disclosed including any undertaken abatement repayments which Dr Callingham should have been obliged to pay.

The building address is: Haverthwaite Surgery, Backbarrow, Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 8QF

Our response:

We have requested the paper files to be sent back to County Hall for review, however, after a review of these files we have been unable to locate any documentation in relation to this Freedom of Information request. This search included a request for the District Valuation Office to review their files in case any records relating to the old premises were held, but no records were located.

Searches of the Land Registry were also conducted which would ultimately record any charges or covenants attached to the premises.

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

Professor Craig Harris

On behalf of Kevin Lavery ICB Chief Executive