

08 August 2018

Dear

Re: Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Ref no: CAS-03529-C0V4Z3-CC – NHS Cannock Chase CCG
CAS-03529-C0V4Z3-SAS – NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG
CAS-03529-C0V4Z3-SOT – NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG
CAS-03529-C0V4Z3-SE – NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG

Thank you for your correspondence dated 02 July 2018 making a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information which may be held by NHS Cannock Chase Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG.

The information you requested, and the responses from NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG, and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG are detailed below:

IVF provision

- a) In the financial year 2017/18 what was the total number of IVF, Intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) and Frozen embryo transfer (FET) cycles delivered on behalf of your CCG (separate volumes) and the total spend by the CCG.

CCG	Total number of cycles in 2017/18			Total spend 2017/18
	IVF	ICSI	FET	
NHS Cannock Chase CCG	16	15	<5*	£47,870
NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG	15	14	<5*	£88,917
NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG	22	17	15	£194,409
NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG	13	16	<5*	£118,511

***Please be advised that under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – personal information, NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG are unable to provide specific**

detail regarding the total number of FET cycles, as the figures for each CCG are below five; releasing low figures could inadvertently disclose personally identifiable information, which would breach data protection principles.

b) For the financial year 2017/18, please provide the per cycle price paid to IVF service providers (ISPs) to deliver IVF, ICSI and FET cycles. (If you are unable to answer this for commercial reasons please answer 1c)

Please see 1c).

c) For each pathway of care below, please indicate the number of providers contracted by the CCG that fall into each price range according to the current cost per cycle:

NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG, and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCGs hold limited information regarding cost per cycle of service providers, and the from the date held, the CCGs are not able to provide a price range breakdown for all fertility service providers in the Staffordshire area. Please see the table below for cost per cycle data that the CCGs do hold:

	Cost of care provision by IVF ISPs (per cycle)						
	Below £2499	£2500 - £2599	£3000 - £3499	£3500 - £3999	£4000 - £4499	£4500 - £4999	£5000+
IVF		1	1				
ICSI			2		1		
FET							

d) How many cycles of IVF (with or without ICSI) do you offer patients i.e. – 1 cycle, 3 cycles. Please describe your policy as to whether the cycles offered are fresh, frozen, or full cycles. In other words, do you count fresh/ frozen cycles as separate cycles?

Under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG, and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you. Information regarding the number of cycles of IVF is available each CCG’s assisted conception policy, which are publicly available at the following links:

NHS Cannock Chase CCG: <http://www.cannockchaseccg.nhs.uk/our-services/assisted-conception-services>

NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG: <http://www.staffordsurroundsccg.nhs.uk/our-services2/assisted-conception-services>

NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG: <https://www.stokeccg.nhs.uk/stoke-governance/policies/commissioning-policies/916-nscgq-infertility-and-assisted-reproduction-commissioning-policy/file>

NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG: <https://sesandspccg.nhs.uk/our-services/assisted-conception-services>

e) Please provide a copy of your current applied eligibility and treatment criteria.

Please see the policies at the links provided above.

IVF Tender Process

2. a) What is the CCG's current model of provision?

NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG have a Selected Providers model of provision (up to eight providers as part of a multi-provider contract).

NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG's current model of provision is non-contracted activity approved on a case by case basis.

b) When did CCG last place its IVF service out for procurement?

NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG: May 2016.

NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG have no procured the service.

c) Since the CCG last placed its IVF service out for procurement, what market engagement exercises have taken place?

None have taken place.

d) How has the CCG satisfied itself that it has the best placed providers in relation to IVF?

NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG: -- bidders met the specification and questions raised in the tender process.

NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG provide a list of providers with an above average success rate to patients, however patients may choose an alternative provider, and agreement is on a case by case basis following discussion with the patient.

e) What are the CCG's commissioning intentions in relation to IVF services?

No changes are expected.

f) Who are the providers currently under contract with the CCG for the delivery of IVF? (Please include contracts where the CCG is an associate commissioner)

NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG do not have contracted providers.

NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG currently have the following IVF delivery providers under contract:

- **BMI Healthcare**
- **Care Fertility Nottingham**
- **Manchester Fertility Services**
- **Midland Fertility**
- **Nurture LLP**
- **University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust**

◆ **We are honest, accessible and we listen** ◆ **Quality is our day job** ◆ **We innovate and deliver** ◆ **Care and respect for all**

Cannock Chase CCG Chair: Dr Mo Huda **East Staffordshire CCG Chair:** Dr Charles Pidsley **North Staffordshire CCG Chair:** Dr Alison Bradley **Stoke on Trent CCG Chair:** Dr Ruth Chambers **Stafford and Surrounds CCG Chair:** Dr Paddy Hannigan **South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG Chair:** Dr Shabby Noor **Accountable Officer:** Marcus Warnes

IVF Top Up Provision

3. a) What is the CCG's Policy on the Provision of Top-Up Treatments, for example: embryo glue; assisted hatching; PGS NGS; Embryoscope. How is this translated in relation to IVF and associated care? (Please send me a copy)

NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG, and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG do not fund Top-Up Treatments. Any discussions regarding Top-Up Treatments are to take place between the patient and the service provider.

- b) Are patients able to top-up when having care at both NHS and Independent Sector Providers, or do different rules apply?

Not applicable.

- c) Do you give patients any support and guidance material on the topic of top ups?

Not applicable.

- d) Is there an opportunity for providers to offer this guidance material?

Not applicable.

Right of appeal

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response, or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact the FOI team to discuss.

However, if you remain dissatisfied with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision, this can be formally requested in writing and must be within a reasonable period of time (two calendar months) from the date this response was issued

Initially you should write to the freedom of information officer, either by email on MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net or post to Jubilee House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TR, specifying why you feel you have been wrongly denied access to the information requested. The freedom of information team will make sure your request is investigated by an independent reviewer who was not involved in the original consideration of your request and a written response will be provided within 20 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF / www.ico.gov.uk

Copyright and the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations

Most of the information that we provide in response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 requests will be subject to copyright protection. In most cases the copyright will be owned by NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG and NHS South East

◆ **We are honest, accessible and we listen** ◆ **Quality is our day job** ◆ **We innovate and deliver** ◆ **Care and respect for all**

Cannock Chase CCG Chair: Dr Mo Huda **East Staffordshire CCG Chair:** Dr Charles Pidsley **North Staffordshire CCG Chair:** Dr Alison Bradley **Stoke on Trent CCG Chair:** Dr Ruth Chambers **Stafford and Surrounds CCG Chair:** Dr Paddy Hannigan **South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG Chair:** Dr Shammy Noor **Accountable Officer:** Marcus Warnes

Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG. The copyright in other information may be owned by another person or organisation, as indicated in the information itself.

You are free to use any information supplied for your own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. The information may also be used for the purposes of news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, for example, by publishing the information or issuing copies to the public will require the permission of the copyright owner. For information where the copyright is owned by NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG please submit a request in writing stating:

- Name and address of applicant requiring permission for re-use of the information.
- Full details of the document/information required for re-use sufficient for NHS Cannock Chase CCG, NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG, NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG and NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG to identify it.
- The purpose for which the document/information is to be re-used.

For information where the copyright is owned by another person or organisation, you must apply to the copyright owner to obtain their permission. However, if you require more information on copyright please see the ICO guidance which can be accessed via the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1151/datasets-foi-guidance.pdf>

Yours sincerely



Sally Young
Director of Corporate Services, Governance and Communications

NHS Cannock Chase CCG
NHS East Staffordshire CCG
NHS North Staffordshire CCG
NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG
NHS Stafford and Surrounds CCG
NHS Stoke-on-Trent CCG

◆ We are honest, accessible and we listen ◆ Quality is our day job ◆ We innovate and deliver ◆ Care and respect for all

Cannock Chase CCG Chair: Dr Mo Huda **East Staffordshire CCG Chair:** Dr Charles Pidsley **North Staffordshire CCG Chair:** Dr Alison Bradley **Stoke on Trent CCG Chair:** Dr Ruth Chambers **Stafford and Surrounds CCG Chair:** Dr Paddy Hannigan **South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG Chair:** Dr Shabby Noor **Accountable Officer:** Marcus Warnes