

Our Ref: NG/RM/24294
Date: 12th September 2024

Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance
North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
Lawton House
Bellringer Road
Trentham
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 20th August 2024. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

I am writing regarding an FOI data request for your Trust about expenditure sign off processes. Please find all relevant questions in the attached document.

Please see Appendix 1 attached.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance

	Question	Response
Q1	Which ICB is your Trust in?	Staffordshire & Stoke on Trent
Q2	In the financial year 2023-24, was your organisation in a deficit or surplus compared to your financial forecast?	Surplus
Q3	Have you agreed to breakeven or be in surplus with your ICB by the end of the 2024-25 financial year?	Yes
<i>If you answered 'surplus' to Q2, please proceed to Q7. If you answered 'deficit' please answer all remaining questions</i>		
Q4 a)	In the financial year 2023-24, how many applications for investment have you submitted through the double lock sign off protocol?	0
Q4 b)	In the financial year 2023-24, how many applications for investment have you submitted through the triple lock sign off protocol?	0
Q5 a)	At the time of asking, how many applications for funding made by your Trust are currently being considered through the double lock protocol and what is the total value of these outstanding applications?	Total number of outstanding applications: 0 Total value of outstanding applications: N/A
Q5 b)	At the time of asking, how many applications for funding made by your Trust are currently being considered through the triple lock protocol and what is the total value of these outstanding applications?	Total number of outstanding applications: 0 Total value of outstanding applications: N/A
Q6 a)	Based on the experience of your organisation, on average how long does an application for funding take to be approved through the double lock sign off protocol?	N/A
Q6 b)	Based on the experience of your organisation, on average how long does an application for funding take to be approved through the triple lock sign off protocol?	N/A
Q7	Has the introduction of double and triple lock sign off protocols improved the financial sustainability of your organisation?	No