

Ref: FOI/00394/CMICB
29 June 2023

Dear,

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
Prices Paid for Homecare Services**

Thank you for your information request indicated in bold below, which has now been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB). I can provide you with the following information and responses.

Please note from 01 July 2022, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) were disestablished, and their statutory functions and responsibilities inherited by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB.

Your Request:

1. The information requested

We ask you to provide the information described below, including the prices paid to independent and voluntary sector Homecare Providers for the provision of regulated Homecare services delivered to people aged 65 years and over in their own home during the seven-day Reference Period which includes Monday, 17 April 2023.

Your attention is drawn to the definitions and interpretation described in sections 2 and 3.

The information requested is:

- (a) The lowest rate per hour paid to any individual Homecare Provider during the Reference Period, expressed in pounds and pence per hour.**
- (b) The highest rate per hour paid to any individual Homecare Provider during the Reference Period, expressed in pounds and pence per hour.**
- (c) The average (“arithmetic mean”) price per hour paid to all Homecare Providers for all hours of Homecare services purchased during the Reference Period, expressed in pounds and pence per hour.**
- (d) The total hours of Homecare purchased from all Homecare Providers during the Reference Period.**

(e) The total hours of Homecare purchased from all Homecare Providers during a seven-day period which includes Monday, 18 April 2022 (i.e. the figure which provides a like-for-like comparison with item (d), above, for the previous year).

(f) Your organisation's total spend on Homecare services purchased from all Homecare Providers during the Reference Period.

(g) The total number of Care Packages handed back by all Homecare Providers between Friday, 1 April 2022 and Friday, 31 March 2023.

(h) The total number of Care Packages handed back by all Homecare Providers between Thursday, 1 April 2021 and Thursday, 31 March 2022 (i.e. the figure which provides a like-for-like comparison with item (g), above, for the previous year).

Questions (a)-(h) refer to Homecare services exclusively. The following questions (i) and (j) relate to all social care services, including Homecare services.

(i) The total number of people aged 65 years and over who were awaiting assessment, review or the start of a care service on Monday, 17 April 2023 (or on a date as close to this as possible).

(j) The total number of people aged 65 years and over who were awaiting assessment, review or the start of a care service on Monday, 18 April 2022 (or on a date as close to this as possible) (i.e. the figure which provides a like-for-like comparison with item (i), above, for the previous year).

2. Definitions

Terms defined below in the singular include the plural, unless otherwise stated.

Homecare should be interpreted as referring to social care and support services delivered in people's own homes. This service may also be known as 'domiciliary care' or 'care at home'.

Homecare Provider refers to an independent or voluntary sector organisation providing Homecare registered by any of the following national statutory regulators:

- [Care Quality Commission](#) (CQC)
- [Care Inspectorate Wales](#) (CIW)
- [Care Inspectorate](#)
- [The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority](#) (RQIA)

Reference Period means any period of seven consecutive days which includes Monday, 17 April 2023.

In relation to the *lowest, highest* and *average* prices paid to Homecare Providers in questions (a) to (c), you should note that our assumption is that your answers will include careworkers' travel time and mileage costs, unless you advise us to the contrary. You may, at your discretion, provide any qualifying statements or clarification about the figures returned in your reply to these questions.

Care Package refers to the combination of services put together to meet a person's assessed needs after an assessment or review made by a public body.

3. Selecting the data requested

The following guidance will help you select the correct data sample to complete this request in questions (a) to (h), above.

In case of doubt, you should apply a common-sense interpretation to the request outlined in section 1, above.

The data sample used to provide this information should include:

- Homecare delivered by independent and voluntary sector Homecare Providers.
- Services delivered to adults aged 65 years and over.
- Services which are primarily designed to provide personal care and support, including prompting people to undertake such activities for themselves.
- The care element (only) of services delivered in 'extra care housing' or 'supported living' schemes (i.e. excluding any payment for providing housing or housing services).

You should exclude the following items from the data sample used:

- Services provided to adults under the age of 65 years.
- Services which are charged by reference to a unit price, other than a price per hour (or part thereof).
- Any payments made directly to people in lieu of the provision of services by your organisation (e.g. a direct payment).
- Services provided by any 'in-house' homecare team, where the workforce is employed by your organisation.

Our Response:

Please find listed below the information held regarding NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) domiciliary care spend and commissioning, in each of the former CCG areas that now make up NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB:

Cheshire

a – e) Due to the way information is recorded and held on the database system used by the Cheshire CHC Team, it is not possible to extract and report on the information requested by the specific parameters listed in your request.

f) £199,858.

g – j) Due to the way information is recorded and held on the database system used by the Cheshire CHC Team, it is not possible to extract and report on the information requested by the specific parameters listed in your request.

Please note that social care is commissioned by the local authorities. You may therefore wish to also redirect your request for this information to Cheshire East Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via:

foi@cheshireeast.gov.uk and Cheshire West & Chester Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via:

foi@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Halton

a) £15.40.

b) £39.76.

c) £23.85.

d) 1,941.75.

e) 2,163.75.

f) £52,937.01

g) Nil.

h) Nil.

i) 2.

j) 6.

Please note that social care is commissioned by the local authority. You may therefore wish to also redirect your request for this information to Halton Borough Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via:

hdl@halton.gov.uk

Knowsley

a - j) Information not held. Please be advised that domiciliary care funded in a patient's own home via both NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) and social care in Knowsley is commissioned by the local authority, Knowsley Council. You may therefore wish to redirect your request for this information to Knowsley Council who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via:

foi@knowsley.gov.uk

Liverpool

- a) £10.47
- b) £42.21
- c) £20.55
- d) 2,732
- e) 2,493
- f) £58,290
- g - j) Information no recorded in a reportable format.

Please note that social care is commissioned by the local authority. You may therefore wish to also redirect your request for this information to Liverpool City Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via:
informationrequests@liverpool.gov.uk

South Sefton

- a) £14.06
- b) £29.32
- c) £21.02
- d) 1,566
- e) 1,455
- f) £35,851.00
- g - j) Information no recorded in a reportable format.

Please note that social care is commissioned by the local authority. You may therefore wish to also redirect your request for this information to Sefton Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via:
ino.information@sefton.gov.uk

Southport & Formby

- a) £16.80
- b) £27.20
- c) £20.19
- d) 1,191
- e) 1,219
- f) £23,508.00
- g - j) Information no recorded in a reportable format.

Please note that social care is commissioned by the local authority. You may therefore wish to also redirect your request for this information to Sefton Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via:
ino.information@sefton.gov.uk

St Helens

a – j) Please be advised that St Helens Borough Council commission CHC including domiciliary care in the former NHS St Helens CCG area. You may therefore wish to redirect your request for this information to St Helens Borough Council who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via:
www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/6525/Raise-a-Freedom-of-Information-request.

Warrington

- a) £16.70
- b) £39.76.
- c) £23.39.
- d) 1,564.75.
- e) 2,514.75.
- f) £57,199.20.
- g) Nil.
- h) Nil.
- i) 20.
- j) 10.

Please note that social care is commissioned by the local authority. You may therefore wish to also redirect your request for this information to Warrington Borough Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via: foi@warrington.gov.uk

Wirral

- a) £21.72
- b) £32.60.
- c) Information no recorded in a reportable format.
- d) Information no recorded in a reportable format.
- e) Information no recorded in a reportable format.
- f) £291,804.00.
- g) Information no recorded in a reportable format.
- h) Information no recorded in a reportable format.
- i) 48.
- j) 30.

Please note that social care is commissioned by the local authority. You may therefore wish to also redirect your request for this information to Wirral Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via: ww3.wirral.gov.uk/crmservicerequests/scripts/ServiceRequestMain.asp

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 us to discuss.

We also wish to take this opportunity to inform you that, where you are not satisfied with the response to your request for information, a formal complaints and internal review process is available.

This can be formally requested by emailing foi@cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk and must be done within a reasonable time period (3 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you remain dissatisfied with our review under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision.

Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at;

The Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk