

Ref: FOI/00362/CMICB
17 May 2023

Dear,

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
Costs and Savings: Creation of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside**

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 am able to 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) What estimates have been made of both the costs and the savings associated with the re-organisation of NHS leadership in Cheshire, following the closing down of the Primary Care Trusts and the creation of the Integrated Care Board/System?

Our Response:

1) NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB running costs and those of the predecessor CCGs are publicly detailed every year in the respective annual reports, which can be accessed via our website on the following link below:
www.cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk/latest/reports/annual-reports/

For the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB was required to reduce its running costs in real terms by approximately 2% to 3% per year to enable it to fund inflationary pay uplifts which were not funded within the baseline funding allocation it receives. In addition, ICBs are required to make a further 30% real terms reduction by the 2025/26 financial year, with at least 20% to be delivered in the 2024/25 financial year. This provides time for ICBs to reorganise and make the necessary transformational changes needed to release efficiencies in running costs which can then be used to further support front line patient care. Further guidance on this can be found here: [NHS England » Integrated care board running cost allowances: efficiency requirements](#)

Your Request:

2) What additional benefits of the 'new' system are being realised, following this latest re-organisation?

Our Response:

2) NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does not hold any documents specifically detailing the additional benefits of the ICB organisation, following the disestablishment of Clinical Commissioning Groups on 01 July 2022.

Your Request:

3) In what way does the new organisation differ from the Cheshire and Merseyside Strategic Health Authority, which was closed down some years ago, as the result of a previous re-organisation?

Our Response:

3) NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does not hold any documents specifically detailing ways the ICB organisation differs from the former Cheshire & Merseyside Strategic Health Authorities which were disestablished on 31 March 2013.

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

Should you need any further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us quoting the above FOI reference.