

Ref: FOI/00423/CMICB  
22 June 2023

Dear

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Payments to HCRG**

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:**

**Under the FOI act 2012 can you tell me when the Cheshire and Merseyside ICB started paying the private provider HCRG for there care in the community work for west lancashire.**

**Our Response:**

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB has interpreted your question above to presumably relate to the West Lancashire Urgent Treatment Centre located at Ormskirk District General Hospital, which is operated by HCRG Care Group Ltd and appears to have been commissioned by the former NHS West Lancashire CCG.

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB has not contracted HCRG Care Group Ltd to provide 'care in the community' work for patients registered with a GP Practice in West Lancashire. However, please be advised that NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB would be responsible for funding care received at the above referenced Urgent Treatment Centre by any patients registered with an NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB member GP Practice.

Upon review of the invoices paid to HCRG Care Group Ltd that have any relation to West Lancashire, it would appear that these invoices relate to walk-in-centre attendances by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB patients at the above referenced Urgent Treatment Centre located at Ormskirk District General Hospital.

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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.gov.uk)*