

Ref: FOI/00343/CMICB
09 May 2023

Dear

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
ICB Joint Forward Plan**

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:

Please could you provide a copy of the most recent draft of NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB's Joint Forward Plan? According to [guidance from NHS England](#) these were due to be drafted for consultation as of 31 March 2023 (pg 2).

Our Response:

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB has developed a draft 2023-24 Joint Forward View Plan, which is currently being consulted on and refined with local stakeholders, with a view to the final approved version being published by 30 June 2023 in line with the above referenced guidance from NHS England.

A final draft of the Joint Forward Plan document will be shared with local partners, including NHS Provider Boards and Health and Wellbeing Boards, in late May and this document will be available publicly. NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB Board will consider the final Joint Forward Plan at the June Board Meeting on 29 June 2023, with papers published the week prior to this.

As this draft 2023-24 Joint Forward View Plan is still in draft format and not yet finalised or approved, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside consider this to be information intended for future publication. As a result, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside is engaging Section 22 (information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and we will therefore not disclose the draft 2023-24 Joint Forward View Plan at this current time.

On applying the Public Interest Test, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does not believe that information relating to draft plans should be made available to the public until it has been finalised and approved to ensure that the information released is accurate.

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.