

Ref: FOI/00404/CMICB  
11 July 2023

Dear

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Pathways for the Detection and Management of Liver Disease in Primary  
Care**

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) Job title of person answering the survey**

**Our Response:**

1) Please be advised that the responses to the below questions have been provided by various staff across the former CCG areas that now make up NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB.

**Your Request:**

**2) Please enter the name of your former CCG area**

**3) . Do you have a named person within the former CCG area who is responsible for liver disease?**

Yes

No

**If yes, please move to Q3a**

**If no, please move to Q3b**

**Q3) If yes, please provide the name, title and email address of this person**

**Name:**

**Title:**

**Email address:**

**3b) In the absence of a named contact for liver disease, please provide the name, title and email address of the person who should be contacted regarding liver health**

**Name:**

**Title:**

**Email address:**

**4) Do you have a commissioned pathway for a) the interpretation of abnormal liver blood tests? b) responding to liver disease more generally? Please could you attach/hyperlink any pathway documents to your response.**

- Yes, pathways for both**
- Yes, pathway for abnormal liver blood tests**
- Yes, pathway for responding to liver disease more generally**
- No pathways for either**

**If answer to any of these is yes, please move to Q5**

**If answer is no pathways for either, please move to Q8**

**5) Is/Are the pathway(s) rolled out across the entire ICB or CCG locality specific?**

- Yes, across the entire ICB**
- No, locality specific**

**6) Does it include an endorsed pathway for the management of abnormal liver blood tests that follows the BSG guidance?**

- Yes**
- No**
- Not applicable**

**7) Is liver fibrosis assessment part of your pathway?**

- Yes**
- No**
- Not applicable**

**If yes, please move to Q7a**

**If no, please move to Q8**

**7a) Please indicate how fibrosis is assessed (Please tick all that apply):**

- Fibroscan**
- ELF Test**
- FIB-4**
- NAFLD fibrosis score**
- iLFTs**
- Other:**

**8) Do you have an additional pathway that proactively case-finds individuals who may be at high-risk of liver disease?**

- Yes
- No

**If yes, please move to Q9**

**If no, please move to Q11**

**9) How does your pathway define individuals as high risk of liver disease? (Please tick all that apply)**

- Diabetes
- Alcohol risk
- Obesity
- Obesity with other metabolic risk factors
- Risk factors for viral hepatitis
- Other:

**10) How are these individuals identified? (Please tick all that apply)**

- At annual chronic disease or year of care review
- During the NHS Health Check
- Opportunistically during consultations
- Using IT system prompts or pop-ups
- Other:

**11) Does your contract with Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service providers include providing a liver disease diagnostic test?**

- Yes
- No

**12) Does your contract with Weight Management Service providers include providing a liver disease diagnostic test?**

- Yes
- No

**13) Does the former CCG area monitor the breadth of adoption and efficacy of liver disease pathways in primary care in your area?**

- Yes
- No

**If yes, please move to Q14**

**If no, please move to Q15**

**14) Where are these statistics published?**

**15) Are you aware of current statistics relating to liver disease in your area and do you monitor these?**

- Yes

No

**16) Which Community Diagnostic Centre(s) serve your former CCG area?**

**17) Is/Are your local Community Diagnostic Centre(s) used for liver disease diagnostics?**

Yes

No

**18) Would you be willing to share your pathway information with other ICBs for best practice purposes?**

Yes

No

Not applicable

**19) Would you like to meet with the British Liver Trust and/or a local clinician to find out how you can improve liver disease in your area? (optional)**

Yes

No

#### **Our Response:**

Please find listed below the information held in response to the above questions posed regarding pathways for the detection and management of liver disease in primary care for each of the former CCG areas that now make up NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB:

#### **Cheshire**

2) NHS Cheshire CCG.

3) No.

3a) Not applicable.

3b) Information not held\*.

4) No\*.

5 - 7) Not applicable.

8) No\*.

9 - 10) Not applicable.

11) Information not held\*\*.

12) Information not held\*\*.

13) No.

14) Not applicable.

15) No.

16 - 17) Information not held\*\*\*.

18) Not applicable.

19) Information not held in response to this question.

#### **Halton**

2) NHS Halton CCG.

- 3) No.
- 3a) Not applicable.
- 3b) Information not held\*.
- 4) No\*.
- 5 - 7) Not applicable.
- 8) No\*.
- 9 - 10) Not applicable.
- 11) Information not held\*\*.
- 12) Information not held\*\*.
- 13) No.
- 14) Not applicable.
- 15) No.
- 16 - 17) Information not held\*\*\*.
- 18) Not applicable.
- 19) Information not held in response to this question.

### **Knowsley**

- 2) NHS Knowsley CCG.
- 3) No.
- 3a) Not applicable.
- 3b) Information not held\*.
- 4) No\*.
- 5 - 7) Not applicable.
- 8) No\*.
- 9 - 10) Not applicable.
- 11) Information not held\*\*.
- 12) Information not held\*\*.
- 13) No.
- 14) Not applicable.
- 15) No.
- 16 - 17) Information not held\*\*\*.
- 18) Not applicable.
- 19) Information not held in response to this question.

### **Liverpool**

- 2) NHS Liverpool CCG.
- 3) No.
- 3a) Not applicable.
- 3b) Programme Manager for Planned Care via: [enquiries@liverpoolccg.nhs.uk](mailto:enquiries@liverpoolccg.nhs.uk)
- 4) Yes, pathways for both.
- 5) No, locality specific.
- 6) Yes.
- 7) Yes.
- 7a) Fibroscan / FIB-4 / NAFLD fibrosis score.
- 8) Yes.
- 9) Diabetes – as part of annual review / alcohol risk / other – part of screening for homeless population.
- 10) At annual chronic disease or year of care review / During the NHS Health Check / Opportunistically during consultations.

- 11) Yes.
- 12) No.
- 13) No.
- 14) Not applicable.
- 15) Yes – via Public Health data and also former CCG outcome data.
- 16) Liverpool Women’s NHS Foundation Trust.
- 17) No.
- 18) Yes.
- 19) Information not held in response to this question.

**Sefton**

- 2) NHS South Sefton CCG / NHS Southport & Formby CCG.
- 3) No.
- 3a) Not applicable.
- 3b) Head of Transformation and Partnerships via: [seftonplace@nhs.net](mailto:seftonplace@nhs.net).
- 4) Yes, pathways for both.
- 5) No, locality specific.
- 6) Not applicable.
- 7) Not applicable.
- 7a) Not applicable.
- 8) No.
- 9 - 10) Not applicable.
- 11) Yes – via Public Health.
- 12) Yes.
- 13) No. Only for specific pathways if a focused piece of work is being undertaken.
- 14) Not applicable.
- 15) Yes - we use Rightcare data to review disease specific areas and our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment looks at prevalence.
- 16) Southport & Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust.
- 17) No not specifically.
- 18) Information not held in response to this question.
- 19) Information not held in response to this question.

**St Helens**

- 2) NHS St Helens CCG.
- 3) No.
- 3a) Not applicable.
- 3b) Senior Commissioning & Transformation Manager via: [Communications.ccg@sthelensccg.nhs.uk](mailto:Communications.ccg@sthelensccg.nhs.uk)
- 4) No pathways for either.
- 5 - 7) Not applicable.
- 8) No\*.
- 9 - 10) Not applicable.
- 11 - 12) Yes – via Public Health\*\*.
- 13) No.
- 14) Not applicable.

- 15) Yes. St Helens Place supply raw data to Public Health\*\*. Public Health receives data for Liver Disease such as hospital admissions, mortality etc. and it is monitored with regards to drug and alcohol use, as well as obesity.
- 16) St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.
- 17) Information not held in response to this question\*.
- 18) Information not held in response to this question.
- 19) Information not held in response to this question.

### **Warrington**

- 2) NHS Warrington CCG.
- 3) No.
- 3a) Not applicable.
- 3b) Information not held\*.
- 4) No\*.
- 5 - 7) Not applicable.
- 8) No\*.
- 9 - 10) Not applicable.
- 11) Information not held\*\*.
- 12) Information not held\*\*.
- 13) No.
- 14) Not applicable.
- 15) No.
- 16 - 17) Information not held\*\*\*.
- 18) Not applicable.
- 19) Information not held in response to this question.

### **Wirral**

- 2) NHS Wirral CCG.
- 3) No.
- 3a) Clinical Lead for Long Term Conditions.
- 3b) Information not held\*.
- 4) Yes, pathways for both.
- 5) No, locality specific.
- 6) Yes.
- 7) Yes.
- 7a) Fibroscan / NAFLD fibrosis score.
- 8) No.
- 9 - 10) Not applicable.
- 11) Information not held\*\*.
- 12) Information not held\*\*.
- 13) No.
- 14) Not applicable.
- 15) No.
- 16 - 17) Information not held\*\*\*.
- 18) Information not held in response to this question.
- 19) Information not held in response to this question.

\*You may wish to redirect your request for this information to the local acute NHS trusts in operation across NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB regarding any pathways specifically around liver disease, which are listed below by former CCG area along with their contact details for Freedom of Information requests:

### **Cheshire**

- *East Cheshire NHS Trust*  
[ecn-tr.foirequests@nhs.net](mailto:ecn-tr.foirequests@nhs.net)
- *Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust*  
[foi.foi@mcht.nhs.uk](mailto:foi.foi@mcht.nhs.uk)
- *Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust*  
[foi.enquiries@nhs.net](mailto:foi.enquiries@nhs.net)

### **Halton**

- *Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust*  
[WHH.FOI@nhs.net](mailto:WHH.FOI@nhs.net)
- *St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust*  
[foirequests@sthk.nhs.uk](mailto:foirequests@sthk.nhs.uk)

### **Knowsley / St Helens**

- *St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust*  
[foirequests@sthk.nhs.uk](mailto:foirequests@sthk.nhs.uk)

### **Warrington**

- *Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust*  
[WHH.FOI@nhs.net](mailto:WHH.FOI@nhs.net)
- *St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust*  
[foirequests@sthk.nhs.uk](mailto:foirequests@sthk.nhs.uk)

\*\*Please be advised that drug and alcohol recovery services / weight management services are commissioned by Public Health via the local authorities. You may therefore wish to redirect your request for this information to the local authorities operating in NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB's geographical area, which are listed below by former CCG area along with their contact details for Freedom of Information requests:

### **Cheshire**

*Cheshire East Council*  
[foi@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:foi@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

*Cheshire West and Chester Council*  
[foi@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:foi@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

### **Halton**

*Halton Borough Council*  
[hdl@halton.gov.uk](mailto:hdl@halton.gov.uk)



**Knowsley**

*Knowsley Council*

[foi@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:foi@knowsley.gov.uk)

**St Helens**

*St Helens Borough Council*

[www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/6525/Raise-a-Freedom-of-Information-request](http://www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/6525/Raise-a-Freedom-of-Information-request)

**Warrington**

*Warrington Borough Council*

[foi@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:foi@warrington.gov.uk)

**Wirral**

*Wirral Council*

[ww3.wirral.gov.uk/crmservicerequests/scripts/ServiceRequestMain.asp](http://ww3.wirral.gov.uk/crmservicerequests/scripts/ServiceRequestMain.asp)

\*\*\*Please note that Community Diagnostic Centres are commissioned by NHS England, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via: [england.contactus@nhs.net](mailto:england.contactus@nhs.net)

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)