

Ref: FOI/00344/CMICB
18 May 2023

Dear

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
CHC Payments**

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.

Your Request:

Pre-ample: Please accept this data request under the Freedom of Information Act as a Freedom of Information Request. This request seeks to collect data regarding CHC payments made to Older Person's Adult Social Care providers by your Integrated Care Board (ICB).

Please note: While the request will seek data for the mean, median, lowest, and highest rates paid per ICB, we would like this data to provide sufficient granularity to answer the questions. For this, we have broken these questions down to be provided per Local Authority that operates in your system, or by Former Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) (whichever is easiest). If there is an alternative breakdown of this data that has not been mentioned, please can you offer this breakdown and clarify how it has been done. If you do not split data by any method, please provide it at an ICB level. If the requested data in the timeframe stated is not available, please use the last day of the most recent month for when data is available, and provide this date in the response.

Questions

1) Please list the Local Authorities within your ICB Boundaries (if this information is published online, please provide a specific link to where this information is available).

Our Response:

1) Please find listed below Local Authorities operating within NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB's geographical area:

- *Cheshire East Council*
- *Cheshire West and Chester Council*
- *Halton Borough Council*
- *Knowsley Council*
- *Liverpool City Council*
- *Sefton Council*
- *St Helens Borough Council*
- *Warrington Borough Council*
- *Wirral Council*

Your Request:

2) As of 31 March 2023, how many individuals were your ICB funding for CHC in Registered Older Persons 65+ Nursing Homes? (Please provide a response by ICB, and if possible Local Authority/Former CCG. If there are additional alternative breakdowns of this data, please provide this)

- a) By ICB**
- b) By Local Authority**
- c) By former CCG**

Our Response:

2a - c) Please find listed below the information held regarding the number of individuals funded via CHC by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB, broken down by former CCG area:

Cheshire

445.

Halton

43.

Knowsley

136.

Liverpool

187.

South Sefton

66.

Southport & Formby

91

St Helens

103 (total figure as unable to separately identify those specifically aged 65 years and older).

Warrington

88.

Wirral

231.

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does not hold the above requested data broken down by Local Authority area.

Your Request:

3) [The National Tariff Payment System Guidance 2022-23](#) states that in the absence of a national price (section 3), which applies to CHC, ICBs should follow the rules for locally determined prices as outlined in section 4.1 as follows: 'The provider and commissioner(s) must engage constructively with each other when trying to agree on local payment approaches.'

Therefore, what CHC-related engagement has the ICB facilitated with their local care providers? (Please link to where this information can be found, or explain how you fulfil your obligations to engage with care providers prior to the annual fee review)

Our Response:

3) Please find listed below the information held regarding what CHC-related engagement the ICB facilitated with local care providers by each of the former CCG areas that now make up NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB:

Cheshire

CHC Commissioners in Cheshire are currently engaging with providers through contract management meetings and will be setting up engagement events in the future.

Halton

The CHC Service in Halton takes account of the Fair Cost of Care exercise and Market Sustainability Plans produced by the Local Authority (Halton Borough Council) alongside submissions from providers. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to Halton Borough Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information request via the details provided in response to Question 6.

Knowsley

Care home payment prices in Knowsley are in line with the Local Authority (Knowsley Council) who are the lead commissioner, broker and payee for all CHC packages of care. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to Knowsley Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information request via the details provided in response to Question 6.

Liverpool

Each year the Local Authority proposed fee uplifts are based on an engagement and consultation exercise and the equivalent uplift is applied to health fees.

Liverpool Place takes a collaborative approach to agreeing increased care fees for providers which are aligned to Liverpool City Council.

Local authorities have a responsibility under the Care Act 2014 to shape and establish a local market for Adult Social Care to meet assessed needs. This responsibility extends to ensuring a sufficient supply of services, including appropriate quality and choice. As part of its responsibilities under the Act, the Council is required to assure themselves that the fee levels it proposes for services secured to meet the needs of individuals are appropriate and take account of the local economic conditions in its market.

South Sefton/Southport & Formby

Care home payment prices in Sefton are in line with the Local Authority (Sefton Council). You may wish to redirect your request for this information to Sefton Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information request via the details provided in response to Question 6.

St Helens

St Helens Integrated CHC Team is a partnership arrangement between the former CCG and St Helens Local Authority (LA). As part of this arrangement, the CHC Team utilise the services of the LA Contracts, Commissioning, Quality Monitoring and Brokerage Teams. St Helens LA have a list of approved providers, who have been through an approval process. This is for both Care Homes and Dom Care providers. Each provider is allocated a Quality Monitoring officer who they can liaise with. There are also regular care provider forums, where providers are able to meet with key senior managers and quality monitoring officers to discuss any issues. Care providers are invited to tender for placements and packages of care through a Brokerage system. Tendered Packages of care and specialist services are put on 'The Chest' for Providers to lodge their interest or bid. St Helens LA negotiates a yearly percentage rise with all providers.

Warrington

The CHC Service in Warrington takes account of the Fair Cost of Care exercise and Market Sustainability Plans produced by the Local Authority (Warrington Borough Council) alongside submissions from providers. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to Warrington Borough Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information request via the details provided in response to Question 6.

Wirral

Wirral Borough Council undertake a yearly engagement exercise with providers to set annual rates and fees for all providers in the following sectors: Residential and Nursing, Supported Living, Extra Care, Care and Support at home and Direct Payments, Shared Lives and Specialist Residential Providers. The former NHS Wirral CCG has historically followed the outcome of the local council's engagement exercise to set their rates and uplift amounts. Copies of the outcome of the current engagement exercise are available from the council via the details provided in response to Question 6.

Your Request:

4) What was the MEAN/MEDIAN/HIGHEST/LOWEST fee paid to Registered Older Persons 65+ Nursing Homes by:- (Please provide a response by ICB, and if possible Local Authority/Former CCG. If there are additional alternative breakdowns of this data, please provide this)

a) By ICB

b) By Local Authority

c) By former CCG

Our Response:

4a - c) Please find listed below the information held regarding the mean/median/highest/lowest weekly fees paid to CHC funded nursing home placements for people aged 65 and over by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB, broken down by former CCG area during the 2022/23 financial year:

Cheshire

Mean: £1,272. Median: £1,250. Highest: £4,870. Lowest: £680.

Halton

Mean: £938.85. Median: £846.52. Highest: £2,193.19. Lowest: £536.79.

Knowsley

Mean: £909.94. Median: £778.19. Highest: £3,261.81. Lowest: £530.00.

Liverpool

Mean: £1,083. Median: £848.00. Highest: £5,089. Lowest: £634.00.

South Sefton

Mean: £974.59. Median: £899.99. Highest: £2,753.66. Lowest: £568.96.

Southport & Formby

Mean: £1,023.80. Median: £966.77. Highest: £4,716.32. Lowest: £518.21.

St Helens

Mean: £1,119.30. Median: £889.19. Highest: £4,200. Lowest: £480.00.

Warrington

Mean: £1,072.06. Median: £979.96. Highest: £3,968.57. Lowest: £713.40.

Wirral

Mean: £1,047. Median: £1000. Highest: £3,960. Lowest: £610.

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does not hold the above requested data broken down by Local Authority area.

Your Request:

5) What were the MEAN/MEDIAN/HIGHEST/LOWEST inflationary uplifts offered in the 2022/23 Financial year by the ICB for Registered Older Persons 65+ Nursing Home residents? (Please provide a response by ICB, and if possible Local Authority/Former CCG. If there are additional alternative breakdowns of this data, please provide this)

- a) By ICB**
- b) By Local Authority**
- c) By former CCG**

Our Response:

5a - c) Please find listed below the information held regarding the mean/median/highest/lowest fee inflationary uplifts offered for CHC funded nursing home placements for people aged 65 and over by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB, broken down by former CCG area during the 2022/23 financial year:

Cheshire

For the 2022/23 financial year, a maximum upper limit uplift of 7% was offered to providers who requested an uplift.

Halton

The uplift offered in Halton during the 2022/23 financial year was 6%. This data is not held in a format that identifies this information as a mean, median, highest or lowest.

Knowsley

As previously advised, care home payment prices in Knowsley are determined by the Local Authority (Knowsley Council) who are the lead commissioner, broker and payee for all CHC packages of care. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to Knowsley Council, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information request via the details provided in response to Question 6.

Liverpool

Mean (Including Funded Nursing Care): 6.86%
Median (Including Funded Nursing Care): 7.45%
Highest (Including Funded Nursing Care): 11.51%
Lowest: 6.76%

[Based on Liverpool City Council and Funded Nursing Care (FNC) rate increases only]

South Sefton/Southport & Formby

The uplift offered in South Sefton/Southport & Formby during the 2022/23 financial year for nursing care was 7.18%. This data is not held in a format that identifies this information as a mean, median, highest or lowest.

St Helens

The uplift offered in St Helens during the 2022/23 financial year was 6%. This data is not held in a format that identifies this information as a mean, median, highest or lowest.

Warrington

The uplift offered in Warrington during the 2022/23 financial year was 7%. This data is not held in a format that identifies this information as a mean, median, highest or lowest.

Wirral

The overall uplift offered in Wirral during the 2022/23 financial year was 5.5%. This data is not held in a format that identifies this information as a mean, median, highest or lowest.

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does not hold the above requested data broken down by Local Authority area.

Your Request:

6) Please can you provide the appropriate contact details for the following topics (Please provide a response by ICB, and if possible Local Authority/Former CCG. If there are additional important contacts, please provide this). Please provide a name, title, email address, phone number and address for each of the below:

- a) Inflationary Uplifts**
- b) Fee Reviews (For instances of a resident's change in need)**
- c) Commissioning**
- d) Payment and Invoice Queries (outside of SBS)**

Our Response:

7) Please find listed below the email addresses for each of the former CCG CHC Teams operating across NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB, who will be able to facilitate responding to the above topics of enquiry:

Cheshire

Cheshire All-Age Continuing Care Team: cheshire.chc-cc@nhs.net

Halton

Halton All-Age Continuing Care Team: cmicb-war.chcadmin@nhs.net

Knowsley

Knowsley All-Age Continuing Care Team: cmicb-kn.chcteam@nhs.net

Liverpool

Liverpool CHC Team: mlcsu.chcbrokerage@nhs.net

South Sefton/Southport & Formby

Sefton CHC Team: mlcsu.adamhub.merseyside@nhs.net

St Helens

St Helens CHC Team: CHCTeam@sthelens.gov.uk

Warrington

Warrington All-Age Continuing Care Team: cmicb-war.chcadmin@nhs.net

Wirral

Wirral All-Age Continuing Care Team: cmicb-wi.wirralcctadmin@nhs.net

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does not hold the above requested information for Local Authorities. You may however 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 along with their contact details for Freedom of Information requests:

- *Cheshire East Council*
foi@cheshireeast.gov.uk
- *Cheshire West and Chester Council*
foi@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- *Halton Borough Council*
hdl@halton.gov.uk
- *Knowsley Council*
foi@knowsley.gov.uk
- *Liverpool City Council*
informationrequests@liverpool.gov.uk
- *Sefton Council*
ino.information@sefton.gov.uk
- *St Helens Borough Council*
www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/6525/Raise-a-Freedom-of-Information-request
- *Warrington Borough Council*
foi@warrington.gov.uk
- *Wirral Council*
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.

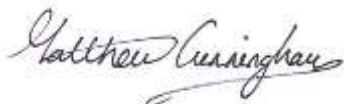
Where you remain dissatisfied with our review under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted 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

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

Yours sincerely



Matthew Cunningham
Associate Director of Corporate Affairs and Governance / Company Secretary
NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB