

07/12/2022

NN-ICB/22/100

Dear Requestor

RE: Freedom of Information Request

With reference to your request for information I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information that you have requested. A response to your request is below.

In the request you asked:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information about the steps NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board is taking to comply with the National Institute of Clinical Excellence's (NICE) Guideline NG6 on *Excess winter deaths and illness and the health risks associated with cold homes*.

My question is:

1. What steps is your Integrated Care Board taking to meet Recommendation 7: Discharge vulnerable people from health or social care settings to a warm home.

We have used the data available to us to conduct a Fuel Poverty deep dive into our local population to identify the over-65 high risk population and very high risk (COPD/heart failure) individuals living in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire with the highest levels of fuel poverty.

As part of this work, we make informed recommendations to our system, using recommended interventions from organisations such as Local Authorities, Age UK etc. The following link comprises a catalogue of various Health-Related Fuel Poverty Schemes in 2019 based categorised on the various funding streams available: <https://www.nea.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Catalogue-of-Health-Related-Fuel-Poverty-Schemes-2019-1.pdf>

The ICB funds two schemes designed to improve coordination between hospital discharge and housing teams to help ensure that people are discharged to safe and appropriate homes. Both schemes provide improved communication between hospital discharge teams and housing and offer an accelerated response for patients whose health is impacted by their housing situation.

The two schemes are detailed below:

- Nottingham University Hospitals - ICB contract with Nottingham City Homes to provide housing advice and support to their integrated discharge teams and an accelerated rehoming process for social housing or supported living tenants. Eligibility is older people, essential wheelchair users and mental health conditions (in-patients).

- Sherwood Forest Hospitals- ICB and Sherwood Forest Hospital Trusts jointly funded contract with Mansfield District Council, which provides housing advice and support to hospital discharge meetings (this advice and support is for any patient where the suitability of their housing is a concern and is not limited to Mansfield residents. It takes a problem solving approach to coordinate across the wider Local Authority offers to facilitate a safe transfer home. It includes 'handyperson' roles to carry out expedited and free minor adaptations such as key safes installation – this is expedited for Mansfield residents and signposted to other district housing teams.

There has also been focused work more generally with hospital discharge teams and council housing teams to improve understanding of process and communication with housing assessment.

There are also actions that individuals can take to ensure they are minimising their fuel costs, reducing their energy consumption, and keeping fit and healthy over the winter period. These recommendations are cascaded systemwide to enable our PCNs, local authority partners, and local charities and voluntary sector organisations proactively engage and communicate with at-risk over-65 citizens in areas of fuel poverty to ensure that they are taking the actions needed and available to them, in terms of increasing their fuel efficiency and keeping well over the winter period.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) have an internal review procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting Lucy Branson, Associate Director of Governance via lucy.branson@nhs.net or by writing to FOI Team at NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB, Sir John Robinson House, Sir John Robinson Way, Arnold, Daybrook, Nottingham, NG5 6DA.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who will consider whether the organisation has complied with its obligations under the Act and can require the organisation to remedy any problems. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113 or report a concern via <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer on behalf of *NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board*

notts.foi@nhs.net

(OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the license conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead via notts.foi@nhs.net. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.