

21/06/2023

NN-ICB/23/305

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 each part of your request is below.

In the request you asked:

- What electronic referral pathways are in place between optometry and secondary care within N NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB?

There is an electronic referral pathway in Bassetlaw Place Based Partnership between community and secondary care.

The current commissioned pathway across Nottingham City, South Nottinghamshire and Mid Nottinghamshire is a Single Access point to community ophthalmology services provided by HealthHarmonie and EMMS via the patient's GP. The exception to this is for some urgent macular patients that are referred directly from Optometry to Hospital Eye Service (HES) via secure email.

For further information on Place Based Partnerships, please see the Integrated Care System website - <https://healthandcarenotts.co.uk/care-in-my-area/>

- What proportion of optometry practices are able to access each platform?

100% of optometrists in Bassetlaw Place Based Partnership are signed up to the ERS and Opera electronic referral pathway.

A limiting issue for Nottingham City, South Nottinghamshire and Mid Nottinghamshire is that currently not all high street optometrists have access to nhs.net but this will be supported in the future of the Eyecare Electronic Referral Service (EeRS) and will remove the need for referrals to go via a patient's GP. EeRS will facilitate a direct referral route from high street optometrists to the community service and Hospital Eye care services where appropriate.

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

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence \(OGL\)](#) 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.