

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 partially hold the information that you have requested. A response to each part of your request is below.

In the request you asked:

- 1) *Are there AQP providers for audiology in your ICB area? If there are AQP providers:*
 - a. *Who are the providers?*
 - b. *What is the length, value and end date of each of their contracts?*
 - c. *Is there a lead AQP provider?*
 - d. *What is the type of AQP agreement? What is the criteria for each agreement i.e. do over 55's go to audiology etc. or do the AQP work in partnership with audiology and how are patients divided between these providers?*

We do not hold this information. NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB do not have any AQP contracts for Audiology.

- 2) *What is the current length of the waiting list for audiology appointments? We do not hold this information, as the length of wait will be held by the respective providers. The ICB does hold the average waiting time (see 2b).*
 - a. *How many patients are currently on the waiting list for audiology services? 2,425*
 - b. *What is the average waiting time for people on the audiology waiting list? At the end of September 2023, 41.7% of patients were waiting less than six weeks.*
 - c. *Can patients self-refer to audiology? If so, how? Yes, however, this is only for some pathways and only for Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust. <https://www.nuh.nhs.uk/contact-ropewalk-house/>*
- 3) *Who is the lead member of staff responsible for commissioning AQP audiology services? (Name and email address)*

As per Q1, we do not hold this information.

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.