



Lincolnshire
Integrated Care Board

Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board

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18 January 2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – DECISION NOTICE

Dear Requester

FOI Reference Number: 72254

I refer to your email of 12 January 2024 requesting information in relation to NHS continuing healthcare applications.

I can confirm on behalf of NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and in accordance with S.1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) that we do hold some of the information that you have requested. A response to each element of your request is detailed below.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request information about NHS continuing healthcare applications made to the Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) for the 2022/23 financial year.

[Clarification: We're just after total figures – both, but the data doesn't need to be split into adults and children.]

Please can you tell me:

1. The total number of

a. standard applications

Continuing Healthcare	922
Children	23

Please note this is the total number of referrals in the 2022/2023 financial year; not all will have been processed within the 2022/2023 year

b. fast-track applications

3179

that were made to your ICB for NHS continuing healthcare funding?

2. How many of those standard applications were

a. negative (did not meet criteria)

223 discounted checklists

b. positive (did meet criteria) but did not proceed to full assessment?

46

- 3. How many of the standard applications proceeded to a full assessment of needs?**
705 – please note this is the total number of referrals accepted assessments in the 2022/2023 financial year and will include individuals who were referred in the previous year.
- 4. Of those that went to full assessment, how many standard applications involved an in person face-to-face meeting with the applicant?**
We do not record this information so not able to give an exact number, but all are face-to face unless there is an exceptional circumstance not to be, so there is only a handful that are not.

Following a full assessment of needs, can you tell me:

- 5. How many applications were assessed as ineligible for NHS continuing healthcare funding?**
538 - please note this is the total number assessed as not eligible in the 2022/2023 financial year and will include individuals who were referred in the previous year.
- a. Of those, how many involved an in person face-to-face meeting with the applicant?**
We do not record this information so not able to give an exact number, but all are face-to face unless there is an exceptional circumstance not to be, so there is only a handful that are not.
- 6. How many were eligible for NHS continuing healthcare?**
173 - please note this is the total number assessed as eligible in the 2022/2023 financial year and will include individuals who were referred in the previous year.
- a. Of those, how many involved an in person face-to-face meeting with the applicant?**
We do not record this information so not able to give an exact number, but all are face-to face unless there is an exceptional circumstance not to be, so there is only a handful that are not.
- 7. Does your ICB always involve specialists in the assessment of the specific medical condition that the person being assessed for NHS continuing healthcare presents with? For example a Parkinson's nurse, an MS specialist nurse, a neurologist etc.**
No
- 8. What is the minimum level of training NHS continuing healthcare assessors undertake to understand needs associated with a range of complex long-term conditions?**
2 hour monthly training sessions covers different topics including long term conditions.

9. Please can you complete the table below to show how many applications were completed in relation to the different timescales?

	Less than 4 weeks	4 - 8 weeks	8 - 12 weeks	12 - 26 weeks
Checklists	871	13	0	0
Full Assessment	As above	As above	As above	As above
Applications for review	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Checklist to full assessment is one timeline; if you would like to know how long it takes to process a checklist (ie the time it takes to decide whether you want to assess the individual or not) it would be 100% less than 4 weeks. As before the numbers are for all assessments completed in the year and include individuals referred in the year before.

Reviews are not timed in the same manner, depending on the type of funding an individual is on; they are reviewed on a 3 or 12 month basis. There is no application for review it is scheduled on that time basis after eligibility and continues for the duration of an individual's funding.

You can find further information on the NHS England website under quarterly data – I have detailed the relevant link below:

[Statistics » Continuing Healthcare and NHS-funded Nursing Care \(england.nhs.uk\)](#)

I hope that this answers your queries with the information we currently hold, but if I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to

Arden & GEM Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit
 FOI TEAM/Corporate Communications Team
 1st Floor, St John's House
 East Street
 Leicester
 LE1 6NB

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided the ICB.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: telephone 0303 123 1113, email icocasework@ico.org.uk and <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

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Yours faithfully

Lindsay Parker
Senior Freedom of Information Officer

***On behalf of
NHS Lincolnshire ICB***