

Ref: CCG June 013 2016

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Corporate Services
NHS Liverpool Clinical Commissioning Group
The Department
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Email: foi@liverpoolccg.nhs.uk

11th July 2016,

Dear Mr Dropkin,

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request that we received on 10th June 2016, with regards to the Cheshire and Merseyside Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP).

Request/Response

1. Has a draft STP for Cheshire & Merseyside been submitted, either on 11 May or subsequently?

In December 2015, the NHS shared planning guidance 16/17 – 20/21 outlined a new approach to help ensure that health and care services are built around the needs of local populations. To do this, every health and care system in England was tasked to produce a multi-year Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), showing how local services will evolve and become sustainable over the next five years – ultimately delivering the Five Year Forward View vision of better health, better patient care and improved NHS efficiency. The Cheshire and Merseyside STP was submitted on 30th June 2016.

2. If so, what consultation with the public on this draft took place before submitting it?

The Cheshire & Merseyside STP has been developed with, and based upon, the needs of local patients and communities, along with the support of clinicians, staff and wider partners such as local government.

The STP has been informed by ongoing local engagement across the region. For example, the Healthy Liverpool programme has directly engaged 20,000 people in transformation plans for the North Mersey area, that now form part of the Cheshire and Merseyside STP.

Although the Cheshire & Merseyside STP has been submitted to NHS England for review, the plan has no status until it is agreed. When the plan has been agreed, normal rules around engagement and public consultation will apply to the implementation of specific proposals.

3. Is the current draft STP proposal a public document and if so where is it available?

The Cheshire & Merseyside STP remains a draft document until it is agreed. STPs will be published once they are final.

4. When do you intend to consult with the public over the content of the STP submission as it currently stands?

We will engage with the public on the content of the STP when plans are final. We do not know at this stage when this will be. Engagement on the STP will build upon existing engagement taking place across Cheshire and Merseyside regarding plans for transforming health and social care to ensure long term clinical and financial sustainability.

5. When do you intend to consult with the public over the content of the final STP submission?

See response to question 4

6. The agenda papers also refer to fortnightly STP local delivery system plan meetings, including Chief Executives of Councils, to establish the narrative for the STP plan. Are minutes of these local delivery system plan meetings available to the public and if so where?

These meetings are not held in public and the notes from these meetings are not published.

The agenda papers make reference to a deadline of the end of June. However, I understand that in other regions, including North Kirklees, the deadlines have been extended with further iterations of the plan anticipated until September.

7. What is the deadline for submission of the final STP submission for Cheshire & Merseyside?

The Cheshire & Merseyside STP was submitted to NHS England on 30th June 2016.

8. When do you expect to submit the final plan?

The Cheshire & Merseyside STP was submitted on 30th June 2016.

9. When do you expect to receive assessment of the final plan from NHS England?

The plans submitted on June 30th will form the basis for further scrutiny and discussion with national leadership in the NHS throughout July. Submissions are draft and may be subject to further revision.

10. At what point will the public see the final plan?

NHS England will determine when STPs can be published.

11. Do you think CCGs have had enough time to prepare STP plans and consult with the public?

STPs have been developed by health and care systems across Cheshire & Merseyside, with involvement from commissioners, both CCG and local authority, along with all NHS providers. The STP builds upon and further joins-up existing plans to transform health and care. Health and care systems across our region were already collaborating and planning infrastructures are already in place, which has enabled system partners to prepare our STP within the timescales required.

We wish to take this opportunity to inform you that a formal complaints and internal review procedure is available to applicants who are unhappy with responses provided to FOI requests. You can formally request an internal review within a reasonable period of time (2 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you are not satisfied with the decision of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a further review of that decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure in the first instance.

The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Should you require any further information, clarification regarding this response or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact us to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

**Customer Relations Lead
NHS Liverpool CCG**