

Please contact: Access to Information Team

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27 January 2023

Dear

Re: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000
Ref no: FOI-2763-L&SC

Thank you for your request dated 30 December 2022.

We can confirm that the ICB does hold the information you requested.

Please find our response to your questions below:

Q1	<p>Your Question:</p> <p>What is the full procedure for reviewing and awarding contracts for GP Services at our local health centres?</p> <p>Our Response:</p> <p>If a GP contract is terminated the ICB will undertake a full options appraisal on all possible routes to ensure continuity of care for patients is maintained.</p> <p>If it is decided that a competitive process is required to secure new providers then the statement below applies:</p> <p>“When a contracting authority (the ICB is a contracting authority for these purposes) is seeking to award a contract for clinical services (which is the case in our circumstances here – GP services) for a value in excess of the value threshold of £663,540 (inclusive of VAT where VAT is relevant to the supply) over the life of the relevant contract, then it must procure that contract pursuant to what is called the light touch regime under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015).</p>
Q2	<p>Your Question:</p> <p>Is there an appeals process? If so, what is it?</p> <p>Our Response:</p> <p>Any challenges to a procurement decision must be made through the Technology and Construction Court.</p>

Q3	Your Question: Who is responsible for carrying out the procedure?
	Our Response: The responsibility to ensure continuity of care for patients is the responsibility of the ICB Primary Care team.
Q4	Your Question: What records of the decisions are kept and where are they published?
	Our Response: All procurement decisions are published, no later than 30 days after the award of a contract. Contracting authorities shall send for publication a contract award notice on the results of the procurement procedure. Contract award notices shall be sent by electronic means via Contracts Finder and Find a Tender Service.

Right of Appeal

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are dissatisfied with the response, you are entitled to request an internal review which should be formally requested in writing and must be within two calendar months from the date this response was issued.

To request an internal review

You can request this by contacting the FOI team by email at MLCSU.FOITeam@nhs.net or by post to Jubilee House, Lancashire Business Park, Leyland, PR26 6TR, specifying why you require a review.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the CCGs FOI complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

**On behalf of Kevin Lavery
ICB Chief Executive**