

Ref: FOI/00202/CMICB
21 February 2023

You previously asked:

1) The service contracts with Cheshire and Merseyside Rehabilitation Network (CMRN) (Locality 1) for both inpatient and outpatient Rehabilitation

Our Previous Response:

1) NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB contract The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust for the provision of the CMRN for both inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation.

You previously asked:

2) A copy of the service specification for both the inpatient and outpatient services

Our Previous Response:

2) Please be advised that the service specification with The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust for the provision of the CMRN is currently under review. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information request via the following email address: enquiries@thewaltoncentre.nhs.uk

Your review request:

I note that on your response, you note that the service is currently under review and that you have advised that I should redirect my request to The Walton Centre.

1) Please confirm whether you hold the existing contracts and specifications regarding my request.

2) Please can you confirm when the service review is likely to be completed? - are you able to clarify the reason for this review?

If you hold the existing service specification and service contracts then I ask that you please release these.

Our Review Response:

1 – 2) NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does hold a copy of the CMRN contract/service specification agreed previously between the former CCGs and The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust. Please note this CMRN contract/service specification is from 2019 and was agreed prior the to Covid-19 pandemic. During the Covid-19 pandemic no new contracts were required

between NHS Providers and NHS Commissioners, and since then this contract has been operated under a block contract arrangement, with no new contract and updated service specification formally signed for the 2022/23 financial year.

Please find enclosed a copy of the former CCG's '2019/20 CMRN contract/service specification' with The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust held by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB which was signed by the former CCGs in 2019. Please accept our apologies that this former CCG 2019/20 contract/service specification was not provided to you in our previous response, this was due to our interpretation of your request that you were seeking confirmation and a copy of a current 2022/23 contract/service specification.

Please note in line with the guidance from the Information Commissioners Office, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB has redacted information identifying and relating to individual people, which are considered to constitute 'personal information' under the Data Protection Act and, as a result, are exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In addition, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB has redacted the financial details relating to the 2019/20 contract offers by the former CCGs and The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust, under Section 43: 'Trade Secrets and Prejudice to Commercial Interests' of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

On applying the Public Interest Test, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB believes that release of the individual financial contract offers between the former CCGs party to the contract and The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust would, or is likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust to compete in a competitive market.

In respect of the CMRN service specification being 'under review' referenced in our previous response, please note that following the disestablishment of CCGs and the formation of NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB on 01 July 2022, work is ongoing to review all of the previous CCG policies, contracts and services specifications inherited by the ICB.

Although a review specifically of the CMRN contract and service specification is planned at some point in the future. there is no date or timescale set currently for this. Please accept our apologies that the reference to this service specification being 'under review' in our previous response was not explicit in that this was in terms of the wider general review of all former CCG policies, contracts and service specifications.

Enc: 2019/20 CMRN contract/service specification



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