

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3523

Please reply to:
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31 August 2016

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP).

1) Whether the organisation possesses a copy of the local NHS "footprint's" Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), as currently formulated. The organisation should possess a copy, as it is the lead organisation for the local footprint.

2) Please provide a copy of the local STP, as currently formulated.

As has been widely announced, the health and social care system in each part of the country is currently developing proposals to ensure better health and wellbeing, better care, and a sustainable NHS for all. Right now areas are at a very early stage of developing proposals, which will be for public debate and discussion.

Once further developed, proposals will be tested by the national health and care bodies. After this, they will go forward for consideration and development by the public and other interested parties. We expect this process to begin during the autumn, but at this initial stage nothing has been finalised and no decisions have been made.

In the case of FOI requests for draft STPs, we believe that there are valid publication exemptions including sections 36 ('Prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs') and section 41 ('Information Provided in Confidence').

Exemption Section 36 – Prejudice to the Effective Conduct of Public Affairs

The information requested is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 36 as the Trust is not required to provide information in response to a request if the information would prejudice or would be likely to prejudice "the effective conduct of public affairs."

Exemption Section 41 – Information Provided in Confidence

The information requested is exempt under Section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as it was obtained by the Trust in confidence and its disclosure would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by another person or another public authority.