

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 4635

Please reply to:
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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 Kent & Medway Strategic Commissioner (STP).

You asked:

- 1. STP Bulletins: The February 2018 edition of the bulletin stated that there would be another Bulletin in 'early' March. As I cannot find it on the website I should be grateful if you could advise when you expect this to be published.*
- 2. Under the Freedom of Information Act I should be grateful if you could advise what the total cost will be of appointing a Kent & Medway Strategic Commissioner and the associated support/back office costs (admin and office functions) and how this will be funded.*

STP response:

1. We are expecting the next edition of the STP bulletin to be published shortly, likely within the next few working days.
2. We have established an STP chief executive and this post is also the accountable officer for 7 out of 8 CCGs. Discussions are taking place with the remaining CCG to see if they wish to be part of this arrangement. The cost of this arrangement remains, and will continue to do so, within the CCG management cost envelope (the amount CCGs are allowed to spend on management support). Through the development of the K&M commissioning function, including the move to establish more cohesive strategic commissioning arrangements, our aspiration is to reduce management cost expenditure by making more efficient use of resources by commissioning at scale, at a Kent and Medway level in order to prioritise funding for front line services to benefit patients and local people

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust understand that your query, "I am however concerned as my request was made to the Sustainable Transformation Team and concerned that this data/inquiry has been shared with another body, namely Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust which is a

totally autonomous and different organisation (without my permission). Could you please offer an explanation as to why this has occurred?" has been answered directly by the STP Team.