

FOI ref no: SCO/FOI/33/2020

Freedom of Information request: reference SCO/FOI/33/2020, first notified to us by letter on 15 June 2020.

Staffordshire Commissioner's Office response to your enquiry is as follows:

I can confirm that the Staffordshire Commissioner's Office does hold the requested information.

It is known that the Commissioner has personally championed the issue of Mental Health and the impact on Policing and I am aware that on the 15th May 2015 the Commissioner made a statement to the media that, and I quote;

'The community triage system, which I initially funded has proved effective and is now being funded by the NHS going forward and be extended to the south of Staffordshire.'

I understand this 'Community Triage Team' was based at the Lichfield Police Station but then reverted to the St Georges Mental Health Facility Stafford. Given the above statement and that 'Public Funds' were used for his project could you please provide the following information;

- 1. What is meant by the term 'Funded' was it a contract of or for service: were the team employed by OPCC and or Staffordshire Police; or were the 'Team' self-employed or employed by a private company if so please identify that company?**

In relation to the above statement where the Community Triage Team for the North of the County was funded initially funded by the Commissioner, please see the link below.

<https://staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk/cms/wp-content/uploads/OPCC-D-201314-018-1.pdf>

The above which you make reference to that the Community Triage Team was based at Lichfield

Police Station which is the South of the County. This was funded by South Staffordshire & Shropshire Foundation Trust now known as Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. All staff were directly employed by Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

- 2. Between what dates did the OPCC Fund the team and what was the cost to the public purse**

The OPCC did not fund the team for the South of county as outlined in question one. The service started in April 2016 and the cost for the service provided is £40,000 per annum which is paid for by the South Staffordshire & Shropshire Foundation Trust now known as Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

- 3. Given they operated or were based a Lichfield police station but being financed by the OPCC who was the immediate supervising authority the police, the NHS or the OPCC**

The team were not financed by the OPCC as outlined in questions 1 & 2. The immediate supervising authority was Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

- 4. What legal status, authority or legal frame work were these individuals operating under and what was the point of access within the NHS, used to request NHS data or medical records**

Staffordshire Commissioners Office, Ground Floor, Block 9, Weston Road, Stafford ST18 0YY

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www.staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk

As the team were employed by South Staffordshire & Shropshire Foundation Trust now known as Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust they would work to the frameworks as defined by their employer.

5. Where was the data stored and who has and currently is responsible for any data obtained.

Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this email and should be addressed to:

Compliance Manager
Staffordshire Commissioner's Office
Block 9, Staffordshire Police HQ
Stafford
ST18 0YY

Or emailed to: FOI.PFCC@staffordshire-pfcc.pnn.gov.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Decision Maker