

Reference: FOI.ICB-2324/292

Subject: Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme (HTCS)

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>As part of the plans to reduce the elective backlog, NHS England has made a number of policy announcements to enable patients currently waiting a long time for care to choose to change provider and be treated further from home if they can be seen faster.</p> <p>In order for this choice to be meaningful for all, NHS England have acknowledge that some patients (and their families if providing carer support) will need support with transport and accommodation to support patients to travel for treatment. NHS England have said that patients are able to apply for support under the Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme - Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme (HTCS) - NHS (www.nhs.uk). NHS England have specifically confirm that ICBs are the one responsible for approving these requests and they will make them on a case by case basis.</p> <p>Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to make a formal request for the following information:</p>	
<p>1. How many applications for support under the HTCS were made to your ICB (or predecessor collective CCGs) for each of the following financial years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2019/20 b. 2020/21 c. 2021/22 d. 2022/23 e. 2023/24 (to the end of October) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 9 b. 3 c. 190 d. 430 e. 274
<p>2. How many HTCS support requests were approved by your ICB (or predecessor collective CCGs) for each of the following financial years:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 9 b. 3 c. 190 d. 430

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2019/20 b. 2020/21 c. 2021/22 d. 2022/23 e. 2022/24 (to the end of October) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. 274
<p>3. How much did your ICB (or predecessor collective CCGs) collective spend to support HTCS requests for each of the following financial years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2019/20 b. 2020/21 c. 2021/22 d. 2022/23 e. 2022/24 (to the end of October) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. £314.92 b. £58.60 c. £1,601.78 d. £4,645.58 e. £1,616.51
<p>4. If it does not exceed the time limits for compiling the response, and the information is available, please can you confirm how many of the above requests for support under the HTCS were for travel to receive treatment at NHS services outside of your ICB area. Please break this response down by each of the following financial years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2019/20 b. 2020/21 c. 2021/22 d. 2022/23 e. 2022/24 (to the end of October) 	<p>The ICB does not hold this information.</p>

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 15 November 2023 and has been approved for release by Sarah Truelove, Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.