



Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/078

**Subject: Ophthalmology Independent Sector Providers** 

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

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<ol> <li>Please provide the names of all independent Sector Providers (ISPs) that have a NHS Standard Contract with your' ICB for the provision of any Ophthalmology Services, to include but not limited to the delivery of Cataract Surgery for 1) the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 and 2) the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. Independent Sector Providers (ISP) include but are not limited to Anglia Community Eye Service (ACES), Community Health &amp; Eyecare (CHEC), Newmedica, Optegra, and Spamedica.</li> </ol>	Somerset Surgical Services Practice Plus Group Newmedica Spamedica ACES (accredited 2024/25)
2. Please provide the total value in GBP (£) of the Indicative Activity Plan of each ISP covered in number 1 of this request for each and all Ophthalmology related services for 1) the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 and 2) the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. In addition to all Ophthalmology related services, please confirm the values attributable within the IAP to cataract outpatient and cataract surgical care The Indicative Activity Plan	The ICB has applied Section 43(2) to the disclosure of the total value of the Indicative Activity Plan of each ISP listed. Section 43(2) exempts from disclosure information which would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of an organisation. The ICB believes that disclosure of the information would prejudice the commercial interests of the providers named above.  The ICB has contacted the providers who have confirmed that the information is considered commercially confidential to them. The ICB



(IAP) is covered under Schedule 2 of the Standard Contract.

has considered the information provided by the providers when applying the public interest test to the exemption.

The public interest arguments in favour of disclosing the information include the ICB's responsibility to be transparent and accountable in its decision making and to promote public understanding of how the NHS work. These services are paid for via public taxation and therefore the public has an interest in whether the services commissioned by the ICB represent value for money.

The public interest argument in favour of maintaining the exemption considers the information provided from the providers that the information is commercially sensitive to them. The providers have confirmed that financial assumptions and projections made within the planning would be considered commercially sensitive and, in conjunction with published spend data, would prejudice their commercial interests.

The ICB has determined that disclosure of the data would prejudice the commercial interests of these providers as details of these plans contain provider specific assumptions which is disclosed would place the providers at a competitive disadvantage.

The ICB has considered that disclosure may result in current providers and possibly future providers not offering services as potential disclosure of commercially sensitive information may constitute too high a risk. The ICB has a responsibility to secure the best use of public resources and provide value for money. To





	achieve this, the ICB needs to have a wide range of organisations willing to offer services.
3. Please provide the total value in GBP (£) paid by the ICB to ISPs for Ophthalmology related activity performed under the Contract for; 1) the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 and, 2) the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. Furthermore, please specify the value attributable within this total Ophthalmology spend that related to cataract outpatient and cataract surgical care.	Total IS Ophthalmology  Financial_year Total_Cost  2023/24 £12,651,662.65  2024/25 £11,673,227.81  Cataract Procedure (excludes OP)  Financial_year Total_Cost  2023/24 £8,883,439.52  2024/25 £7,952,580.58
4. Please provide the total value in GBP (£) of the Indicative Activity Plan of each ISP covered in number 1 of this request for each and all Ophthalmology related services for 1) the period 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026 In addition to all Ophthalmology related services, please confirm the values attributable within the IAP to cataract outpatient and cataract surgical care The Indicative Activity Plan (IAP) is covered under Schedule 2 of the Standard Contract.	Please refer to Q2's response.

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025 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.