

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/147

Subject: Sirona Foundation and Spending Breakdown

I can confirm that the ICB does not hold the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>1. Charitable Donations and the Sirona Foundation In 2014, Sirona donated £806,000 to the Sirona Foundation (where directors held roles). By 2019, donations fell to £0, coinciding with worsening net liabilities (£1.5m in 2019).</p> <p>Please disclose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A detailed breakdown of how the £806k donation in 2014 was spent, including evidence of community benefit. b) The rationale for eliminating donations after 2014, given Sirona's legal obligation as a CIC to reinvest in public health. c) Any conflict of interest assessments conducted when directors approved funds to a foundation where they held roles. 	<p>Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board does not hold the information requested.</p> <p>We advise you to contact Sirona care and health CiC directly: https://sirona-cic.org.uk/contact-sirona/#:~:text=0300%20125%206789*-,For%20other%20queries,-%3A</p>

2. Director Pay and Service Performance

Despite consistent net liabilities (driven by pension deficits) and reports of strained services ("critical incidents"), executive pay remained high:

2013: £607k total for 6 directors (highest-paid: ~£129k/yr).

2019: £359k total (highest-paid: £122k/yr), while key management costs rose to £688k.

Please explain:

a) How such remuneration is justified, given:

Sirona's declining charitable contributions;

Pension liabilities (£4.6m in 2019) eroding financial stability;

Widespread public concern over service standards (e.g., delays, "subpar" care).

b) What measurable improvements directors delivered to justify their pay. For example:

<p>Have they "revolutionized" community health services? If so, provide evidence. As far as the public knows it is failing.</p> <p>Have they achieved exceptional outcomes (e.g., "cured cancer," drastically reduced waiting times)?</p> <p>c) Whether executive bonuses or pay rises were linked to reducing donations to the Sirona Foundation.</p>	
<p>3. Pension Liabilities vs. Surplus Allocation Sirona reported operational surpluses (e.g., £432k in 2019) but net deficits due to pension obligations.</p> <p>Please confirm:</p> <p>a) Why surpluses were not used to reduce pension debts, given their risk to long-term viability.</p> <p>b) The proportion of director remuneration allocated to pension contributions, and how this impacts liabilities.</p>	
<p>Public Interest Justification As a taxpayer-funded CIC, Sirona must demonstrate that executive pay and financial decisions align with its non-profit mission. The public has a right to know:</p> <p>Why donations to a director-linked foundation ended while financial pressures grew;</p> <p>What exceptional results justify six-figure director pay amid service challenges;</p>	

Whether pension liabilities are being prioritized over community reinvestment.

I request all information in electronic format within 20 working days. If any part exceeds cost limits, prioritize Sections 1 and 2.

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 13 August 2025 and has been approved for release by Helena Fuller, Helena Fuller, Deputy Director of Business, Strategy and Planning for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.