

Reference: FOI.ICB-2627/024

Subject: Equity Policy for NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC)

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

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>1. Equity Policy for CHC Funding</p> <p>a. Does your ICB have a formal equity policy, framework, or guidance document relating specifically to equity, equality, or reducing unwarranted variation in NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) funding decisions?</p> <p>If yes, please provide a copy of the policy or a link to where it is publicly available.</p>	<p>Please see the following link to the BNSSG ICB Commissioning Policy for All Age Continuing Care: https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Commissioning-Policy-for-All-Age-Continuing-Care-2025-FINAL.pdf</p>
<p>2. Implementation and Use of the Equity Policy</p> <p>a. Can you indicate where and how this equity policy has been implemented within CHC processes (e.g., eligibility assessments, decision-making panels, resource allocation, personalised care planning, or appeals)?</p> <p>b. Please describe any specific pathways, procedures, or tools used to ensure equitable CHC decision-making.</p>	<p>This is set out in detail within the above policy.</p>

<p>3. Impact on Commissioned Care Packages</p> <p>a. Has the equity policy influenced changes to commissioned care packages, particularly decisions where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an individual’s care package has been changed from home-based care to nursing home care, or • funding decisions have been reviewed due to equity considerations? <p>b. If so, please provide any documentation, reports, or summaries covering 2025 and 2026 outlining these changes (with any necessary redactions to protect personal data).</p>	<p>The policy has been in place since May 2019, revised in 2022 and 2025. Packages of care and placements for adults and children in receipt of Continuing Healthcare are commissioned in line with this policy.</p> <p>The ICB has not undertaken an explicit analysis to identify if implementing the policy influenced changes to commissioned care packages.</p>
<p>4. Monitoring and Evaluation</p> <p>a. Does the ICB collect or review data on equity in CHC outcomes, such as demographic variation, location-based differences, or differences between home care vs. nursing home placements?</p> <p>b. If available, please provide the most recent evaluation, dataset, or summary report.</p>	<p>The ICB collects core demographic information as part of the nationally mandated assessment documentation used within the All Age Continuing Care programme.</p> <p>No recent evaluation, or datasets have been produced by the ICB analysing demographic information.</p>

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 5 May 2026 and has been approved for release by Rosi Shepherd, Chief Clinical Leadership and Delivery Officer (Nursing) for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.