

Ref: FOI/00016/CMICB  
15 August 2022

**Your Request:**

**1) Did you submit your plan to extend or introduce the tech-enabled virtual ward model to NHS England by Monday 20th June 2022? Please answer Yes or No."**

**1a) If yes to Q1: please can you provide a copy of your plan to extend or introduce the tech-enabled virtual ward model?**

**1b) If no to Q1: have you subsequently submitted a plan to extend or introduce the tech-enabled virtual ward model to NHS England? Please answer Yes or No."**

**1bi) If no to Q1.b: by which date will you anticipate you'll have a plan to extend or introduce the tech-enabled virtual ward model ready to send to NHS England?**

**1c) If you have submitted your plan to extend or introduce the tech-enabled virtual ward model, what were your associated funding requests included in your plan made to NHS England for 2022/23 and for 2023/24?**

**1d) If you have submitted your plan to extend or introduce the tech-enabled virtual ward model, and as part of your projected workforce staffing, how many additional staff are you proposing to hire to support tech-enabled virtual wards?**

**Our Response:**

1a- d) NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB shared their plans to extend or introduce the tech-enabled virtual ward model with the NHS England regional team by Monday 20 June 2022. However, this plan is yet to be approved and is still in 'draft' format. As the information relating to plans to extend or introduce the tech-enabled virtual ward model is still in draft format and not yet finalised or approved, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside consider this to be information intended for future publication. As a result, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside is engaging Section 22 (information intended for future publication) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and we will therefore not disclose the draft plans to extend or introduce the tech-enabled virtual ward model at this current time.

On applying the Public Interest Test, NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does not believe that information relating to draft plans should be made available to the public until it has been finalised and approved to ensure that the information released is accurate. NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does not currently hold information on a specific date as to when these plans are scheduled to be finalised and approved. However, should you wish to enquire again in the future regarding the progress of these plans and release to the public, please kindly submit another Freedom of Information request for this information.

