

Your Request:

We would like to get the following data on the contracts your ICB has with independent providers:

1) Do you use virtual wards in your trusts? (Y/N)

Our Response:

1) Yes.

Your Request:

2) If you are not currently using virtual wards, are you planning on using them in the future?

Our Response:

2) Not applicable.

Your Request:

3) How many virtual ward beds do you have?

Our Response:

3) NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB has commissioned 900 virtual beds across the two-year national virtual ward programme and is mobilising these beds in a phased approach, with 110 virtual beds currently in operation.

Your Request:

4) Can you please specify how many virtual wards you have by speciality (respiratory care, cardiology care, diabetes care, stroke care, renal care, pre/post operative care services, other)?

Our Response:

4) One Frailty, three Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) and one Heart Failure.

Your Request:

5) How many patients have been admitted in virtual wards in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022?

Our Response:

5) Please be advised that NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB's virtual ward programme was only launched this year, following award of national funding. As of 14 November 2022, there were 55 patients occupying virtual ward beds.

Your Request:

6) Which virtual ward software providers do you work with?

Our Response:

6) Docobo.

Your Request:

7) Do you have the values and durations of the contracts with the virtual ward software providers for 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022?

Our Response:

7) Information not held. Please be advised that the contract for virtual ward software is held by Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust. You may therefore wish to redirect your request for this information to Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust, who can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via: FOI@merseycare.nhs.uk.