

Request

I am writing to request under the Freedom of Information Act, concerning any planned health centre upgrade or increase to support the medical needs of the potential additional influx of residents to Standish - due to the increased population density.

Respectful can I ask what Infrastructure is in place for Standish, particularly any planned increase of GP surgeries within the area

<u>Response</u>

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (as amended, FOIA), public authorities are required to disclose recorded information unless an exemption applies. However, FOIA does not define or require interpretation of broad terms such as "infrastructure." As such, the Council is unable to provide a definitive response to that part of your request, as it would require speculation or opinion rather than disclosure of recorded information.

With respect to the delivery of healthcare facilities, responsibility for planning and commissioning such services lies with the National Health Service (NHS), specifically through Integrated Care Boards (ICBs). Local authorities, including Wigan Council, are not responsible for the direct delivery of GP surgeries or other primary care facilities. However, the Council may engage with NHS partners through planning policy and development management processes to support infrastructure planning. In this regard, information on the infrastructure being delivered by the Council through Strategic Infrastructure Assessments for Standish and Golborne and Lowton can be viewed on the Council's website at the following link:

Strategic infrastructure assessments

If you require information about planned GP surgery expansions or upgrades in Standish, we recommend contacting the relevant NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board.