

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24–389

[NECS – John Snow House](#)
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By Email

16 January 2025

Dear Applicant

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information – NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB)

Thank you for your request received by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 8 January 2025 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (the ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley (which covers the five local authorities of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees).

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

Your Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request information regarding whether the Integrated Care Board has been placed in financial turnaround by NHS England.

By “financial turnaround” I mean the process an ICB is required to go through in order to meet the requirements of the financial plan it has agreed with NHS England for a period. I understand that ICBs can be placed in financial turnaround by NHS England when there is significant deviation from in-year financial plans.

Please could you provide responses to the following questions:

1. Has the ICB been placed in financial turnaround in the current financial year? If so, please provide the dates this status was applied, and any formal documentation related to this designation.
2. If the ICB has been placed in financial turnaround, have external consultants been engaged to assist it? If so, please provide:
 - a. The names of the consultancy firms or independent consultants engaged.
 - b. The monetary amount budgeted or earmarked for consultancy support.

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- c. The scope of work agreed with the consultants.
 - d. Copies of any contracts or agreements with these consultants.
3. What specific recommendations have the external consultants made to address financial challenges? Please include a summary of any proposed measures.

If any part of this request is unclear or if you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to your response within the statutory timeframe of 20 working days, as outlined in the Freedom of Information Act.

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB holds some of the information you have requested.

- 1. North East and North Cumbria ICB has not been placed in financial turnaround in the current financial year.
- 2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
- 3. Please refer to the response to question 1.

In accordance with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the NHS ICB website <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/>.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision, you should write to the Senior Governance Manager using the contact details at the top of this letter quoting the appropriate reference number.

If you are not content with the outcome your review, you do have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the North of England Commissioning Support Unit.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.org.uk

Any information we provide following your request under the Freedom of Information Act will not confer an automatic right for you to re-use that information, for example to publish it. If you wish to re-use the information that we provide and you do not specify this in your initial application for information then you must make a further request for its re-use as per the Re-Use of Public Sector

Information Regulations 2015 www.legislation.gov.uk . This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

S Davies

S Davies
Information Governance Officer