



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria
ICB\FOI ICB750

NECS – John Snow House
Durham University Science Park
Durham
DH1 3YG

Tel: 0191 301 1300
E-mail: necsu.icbfoi@nhs.net

22 March 2024

Applicant
By Email

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 05/02/2024, and clarification received on 26/03/2024, for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

NENC ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley (which covers the 5 councils that make it up – Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees).

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

Your Request

- 1. A complete list of the services that your organisation decommissioned or plans to decommission in:**
 - a. 2022-23**
 - b. 2023-24**
 - c. 2024-25 (planned)**
- 2. A short explanation for each of the decommissioning decisions listed above.**
- 3. A breakdown of the cost savings (actual or projected) from each decommissioning decision.**

4. A figure for the overall amount of local discretionary funding for primary care services that was allocated in your area in each of the following years:
 - a. 2022-23
 - b. 2023-24
 - c. 2024-25 (planned)

5. A figure for the proportion of the overall commissioning budget that was allocated to local discretionary funding for primary care services in each of the following years.
 - a. 2022-23
 - b. 2023-24
 - c. 2024-25 (planned)

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.

Responses to Q1-3

County Durham, Newcastle, Gateshead, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Sunderland and Tees Valley places

- 1a to c. None
2. Nil
3. Nil

Northumberland place

1a. 2022-23

- i. Extended Access (via 10 GP Practice Hubs)
- ii. Versus Arthritis – Shared Decision Making

1b. 2023-24

- i. Community Ambulanz
- ii. Age UK Covid Vaccine Transport

1c. 2024-25 (planned)

Nil

2. 2022/23

- i. decommissioned/contracts expired 30/09/2022 as Enhanced Access as part of the nationally commissioned Network Directed Enhanced Services replaced the service.
- ii. Contract come to an end 31/12/2022 and was not recommissioned. It was felt that shared Decision Making was already suitably covered via the Northumberland MSK service.

2023/24

- i. Provider was on a zero guaranteed activity contract for Mental Health Conveyancing. Provider had never actually performed any activity, so felt needless to recommission for 2023/24
- ii. The service was to convey patients who would otherwise struggle to attend, to appointments for Covid Vaccinations. The contract expired on 30/06/2023 and was not recommissioned as the service was no longer required.

2024/25

Nil

3a 2022-23

- i. Extended Access (via 10 GP Practice Hubs) - *No saving as replaced by Enhanced Access*
- ii. Versus Arthritis – Shared Decision Making - *The annual budget for the service was £81,475, though only £55,900 was guaranteed as a block contract value, with the additional budget available to activity over and above a set amount, up to a n upper maximum.*

3b 2023-24

- i. Community Ambulnz - *Zero saving as no activity ever performed by the Provider*
- ii. Age UK Covid Vaccine Transport - *The total cost of the service from December 2020 to expiry in June 2023 was circa £10k.*

3c 2024-25 (planned)

Nil

South Tyneside place

1 a – 0

1 b – 1 Stop Smoking Services

1 c – 0

2 – N/A

3 – £43,000

Responses to Q4-5

Response for all places in attached spreadsheet – please note that no information has been provided for 2024/25 as it is not held.

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
Paul Atkinson

Paul Atkinson
Information Governance Officer