

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24–211

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By Email

4 September 2024

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 19 August 2024 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, I am writing to request information regarding autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (AHD) services.

I would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

1. Does your organisation commission or provide (please specify) referral, diagnosis or treatment services for the following?
 - a. ASD in children
 - b. ASD in adults
 - c. ADHD in children
 - d. ADHD in adults
2. Please provide an overview of the current digital and physical care pathways, from referral for assessment to diagnosis and long-term treatment, for each of the following.
 - a. ASD in children
 - b. ASD in adults
 - c. ADHD in children

- d. ADHD in adults
3. Please provide each of the following, for each of the following financial years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24, split by ASD in Children, ASD in adults, ADHD in children and ADHD in adults.
 - a. Number of:
 - i. People referred for diagnosis assessment
 - ii. People screened/triaged and subsequently not assessed
 - iii. Diagnosis assessments completed
 - iv. People subsequently diagnosed with the relevant condition
 - b. Average (mean) waiting time from referral to assessment (in weeks)
4. What was the total expenditure by your organisation on mental health services, for each of the following financial years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24?
5. Please provide each of the following expenditures by your organisation, for each of the following financial years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24, split by ASD in Children, ASD in adults, ADHD in children and ADHD in adults.
 - a. Total expenditure
 - b. Split of expenditure by:
 - i. Screening/triage of referrals
 - ii. Diagnosis assessments
 - iii. Post-diagnosis treatment (including medication)
 - iv. Post-diagnosis follow-up
 - v. Other expenditures (please specify)
6. For all providers used since 2021/22 for the provision of ASD in Children, ASD in adults, ADHD in children or ADHD in adult services, please provide the following information:
 - a. Name of provider
 - b. NHS or independent provider
 - c. Categories of patients served (children ASD, adult ASD, children ADHD, adult ADHD)
 - d. Services provided for your organisation (e.g. screening/triage, diagnostic assessment, treatment, long-term follow-up)
 - e. Total expenditure by your organisation on their services for each of the following financial years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24
 - f. Number of people accessing their services commissioned by your organisation for each of the following financial years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24.

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.

NENC ICB is only able to information can only be provided for this FOI based on patients accessing locally commissioned services. Patients are also able to access services provided by providers outside of locally commissioned services under the NHS Right to Choose, but the ICB would not hold all this information.

1. NENC ICB commissions all services listed, a to d, in your question.
2. On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested. However, we have determined that the information is held by the mental health hospital NHS foundation trusts (FTs) within the North East and North Cumbria region.

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, we have provided the FOI email addresses for those mental health hospitals to make your request.

NENC Mental Health Hospital FTs	Email
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS FT (CNTW)	foi@cntw.nhs.uk
Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS FT (TEWV)	tewv.foi@nhs.net

3. Please refer to the response to question 2.
4. Total expenditure on mental health services:

Financial Year	Expenditure (£'000)
2021/22	£591,972
2122/23	£632,047
2023/24	£688,966

5. Commissioned services within the North East and North Cumbria, provided by Foundation Trusts and Psych-UK are paid on a block contract basis and therefore the ICB do not hold this information. Please redirect your request to the providers noted in the response to question 2.
6. Please find details below on total expenditure for all providers. These figures are estimates as they are as part of a wider block contract for CNTW and TEWV (and note that this is the response that the contracting team provided). The balance from a range of non-NHS providers.

Financial Year	Expenditure (£'000)
2021/22	£5,065
2122/23	£5,374
2023/24	£8,024

Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear NHS Foundation Trust

- a. Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear NHS Foundation Trust
- b. NHS
- c. All categories served across Newcastle, Gateshead, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland places. North Cumbria excludes Adult ADHD.
- d. All services
- e. Please see table in the main part of question 6.
- f. Please refer to the response to question 2.

Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust:

- a. Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust
- b. NHS
- c. All categories served across County Durham and Tees Valley places.
- d. All services
- e. Please see table in the main part of question 6.
- f. Please refer to the response to question 2.

Psych-UK

- a. Psych-UK
- b. Independent provider

- c. Adult ADHD in North Cumbria, Northumberland, Newcastle and Gateshead. Adult Autism in Newcastle and Gateshead
- d. All services
- e. Please see table in the main part of question 6.
- f. NENC ICB does not hold this information.

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 faithfully

S Davies

S Davies
Information Governance Officer