

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24-095

NECS – John Snow House
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By Email

4 June 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 Freedom of Information (FOI) request received by the North East and the North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (the ICB) on 29 May 2024

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).

We have dealt with your request in accordance with your “right to know” under section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (subsequently referred to as FOIA2000) which entitles you to be provided with information “held” by a public authority unless an appropriate exemption applies.

Your Request

I would like to request that you provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act:

- 1) Please can you confirm what your total spend on Allied Health Professional (AHP) agency staff was during the financial year 2022-2023?

Can you please break this financial information down by AHP specialism:

- Art therapists
- Dietitians
- Drama therapists
- Music therapists
- Occupational therapists
- Operating department practitioners
- Orthoptists
- Osteopaths

- Paramedics
- Physiotherapists
- Podiatrists
- Prosthetists and orthotists
- Radiographers
- Speech and language therapists

2) Please can you confirm the names of the organisation/s you procure temporary Allied Health Professionals (AHP) from?

To provide additional clarity on my request, 'temporary Allied Health Professionals' is to mean all persons who are AHPs and are not on permanent contracts of employment with the Board but are supplied via employment agencies.

3) What was the average hourly margin (in £ and p) paid to recruitment agencies providing AHPs for temporary roles during the financial year 1/4/22 to 31/3/23?

Our Response

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 that the ICB does not hold any of the information requested.

The ICB has not engaged AHP agency workers.

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 make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Senior Information Governance Officer using the contact details at the top of this letter quoting the appropriate reference number.

If you are not content with the outcome your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. 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

Yours sincerely

S Davies

S Davies
Information Governance Officer