

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24-449

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

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

By Email

21 February 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 19 February 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

1. Does your ICB commission a maternal mental health service? (Yes/No)
2. If yes to Question 1, does this service include access to specialist psychological support (1:1 therapies), for people with the following experiences:

Experience	Both parents	Mother/ birthing person only
Miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy and molar pregnancy	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure
Termination of Pregnancy for Fetal Anomaly (ToPFA)	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure
Stillbirth	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure
Neonatal Death	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure
Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy (SUDI)	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure

3. If yes to Question 1, what is the current composition of the clinical team:

Role	NHS Agenda for Change Banding	WTE
Consultant Clinical Psychologist 8c		
Clinical/ counselling psychologist 8b		
Project manager		
Clinical/ counselling psychologist		
Art therapist		
Specialist Mental Health practitioner		
Mental Health Nurse		
Specialist Midwife		
Peer Support Worker		
Assistant Psychologist		
Project Officer		
Administrator		

4. If yes to Question 1, how long after the experience of pregnancy and baby loss are bereaved parents able to access the service?
- Up to one Year
 - Up to two Years
 - Indefinitely – parents can refer themselves at any time
 - Other (please state)
5. If yes to Question 1, what was the average length of time bereaved parents waited to be seen by the service, following referral, in 2024 for:
- Assessment?
 - Therapy?
6. If yes to Question 1, how long are parents able to access therapies from the maternal mental health service?
- Up to 6 weeks
 - Between 6 and 12 weeks
 - Between 12 and 24 weeks
 - Indefinitely – for as long as therapy is needed
 - Other (please state)
7. Do you commission any other specialist psychological therapy service, separately from Maternal Mental Health Services, for bereaved parents who have had the following experiences?

Experience	Both parents	Mother only	Father or partner only
Miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy and molar pregnancy	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure

Termination of Pregnancy for Fetal Anomaly (ToPFA)	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure
Stillbirth	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure
Neonatal Death	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure
Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy (SUDI)	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure	Yes/No/Unsure

8. If yes, what service do you commission?
9. Do you hold any more information on psychological support for parents who have experienced pregnancy or baby loss that may be useful in helping us to understand the services they can access in your area?

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. Yes, NENC ICB commissions a maternal mental health service.
2. We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB on this occasion is not able 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. Please refer to the response to question 2.
5. Please refer to the response to question 2.
6. Please refer to the response to question 2.
7. No, other specialist psychological therapy services are not commissioned separately from Maternal Mental Health Services.
8. Please refer to response to question 7.
9. Please find links to service information on CNTW and TEWV websites:

[Perinatal community mental health team Teesside – TEWV](#)
[Perinatal mental health service in Durham and Darlington – TEWV](#)
[Perinatal Community Mental Health Service - \(Ashgrove and Penshaw\) – CNTW040 – CNTW](#)
[Maternal Mental Health... | NHS Physical Health Psychology Cumbria](#)

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