

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24–304

[NECS – John Snow House](#)
Durham University Science Park
Durham
DH1 3YG

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

By Email

15 November 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 31 October 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

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. [Where data is not readily available, please provide as much data as possible within the appropriate limit” defined in Section 12 of the FOI Act 2000].

Current Contractual Arrangements

1. Please state all ‘Tier 2 & Tier 3’ Weight Management Service Providers that are commissioned to deliver services in your ICB area.
 - If your contracted providers are NHS Trusts (inc NHS FT’s) please state if they hold sub-contract arrangements with non-NHS providers and provide these details where possible).
2. Of the above-named providers commissioned to deliver ‘Tier 3’ weight management services,
 - can you advise if they each hold waiting lists,
 - or are they each delivering access to services/ treatment within 18 weeks of referral.
 - Also are all these providers delivering services face to face and or virtual?
3. Of the above-named providers, can you state:
 - the length of current contract (dates),
 - and total contract value

- including, indicative activity.

Future Commissioning & Procurement

4. How does the ICB intend to procure future contracts for T3 Weight Management Services, under the Provider Selection Regime (PSR).
 - to direct award under Process A (e.g. to incumbent provider),
 - to direct award under Process B (e.g. choice of provider/s)
 - to direct award under Process C (e.g. A&B do not apply / or incumbent group providers)
 - or by direct award to the most suitable provider, without competitive tendering,
 - or does it intend to run a competitive process?
5. Does the ICB intend to, or is it considering, delegating its commissioning of T3 weight management services to its local authority system partner within the ICS in the future (under a pooled S75)?
6. Does your ICB have an ‘**accreditation process**’ for providers who wish to express an interest in providing T3 weight management services, if so, please share link or details of gateway proformas / accreditation questionnaire.
7. Who in the ICB would be responsible for the commissioning of weight management services and do you have a designated Clinical Lead? Please provide name, position, and contact details (where possible)

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. NENC ICB is not responsible for the commissioning of Tier 2 services; that information is available directly from the 13 Local Authorities within the North East and North Cumbria.

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 local Authorities to make your request.

NENC Local Authorities	Email
Cumbria County Council	information.governance@cumbria.gov.uk
Darlington Borough Council	freedomofinformation@darlington.gov.uk
Durham County Council	foi@durham.gov.uk
Gateshead Council	informationrights@gateshead.gov.uk
Hartlepool Borough Council	freedomofinformation@hartlepool.gov.uk
Middlesbrough Borough Council	foi@middlesbrough.gov.uk
Newcastle City Council	freedomofinformation@newcastle.gov.uk
North Tyneside Council	foiofficer@northtyneside.gov.uk
Northumberland County Council	foi@northumberland.gov.uk
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	informationgovernance@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk
South Tyneside Council	foi@southtyneside.gov.uk
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	foiandcomplaints@stockton.gov.uk
Sunderland City Council	freedom.information@sunderland.gov.uk

Tier 3 service providers are the acute hospital foundation trusts (FTs) listed below:

- County Durham and Darlington NHS FT
- North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT
- Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT
- South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT
- South Tees Hospitals NHS FT
- The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT

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 acute 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 all NENC acute hospitals to make your request.

NENC Acute Hospital FTs	Email
County Durham and Darlington NHS FT	cdda-tr.cddffoi@nhs.net
Gateshead Health NHS FT	ghnt.foi.enquiries@nhs.net
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT	foirequest@cumbria.nhs.uk
North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT	foi@nth.nhs.uk
Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT	foi@northumbria.nhs.uk
South Tees Hospitals NHS FT	foi@stees.nhs.uk
South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT	stsft.freedomofinformation@nhs.net
The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	nuth.freedom.information@nhs.net

3. 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. However, this is available within the NENC ICB publication scheme which can be accessed on the ICB website: [Publications scheme | North East and North Cumbria NHS \(northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk\)](https://www.northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/publications-scheme) or please refer to our previous related request, our ref: FOI ICB 24-216 from the NENC ICB FOI Disclosure Log at: [foi-icb-24-216-response-letter.pdf](https://www.northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/foi-icb-24-216-response-letter.pdf)

In accordance with s.21 of the FOIA, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

4. Procurement decisions will be made in line with the Provider Selection Regime at the appropriate time, prior to the contract expiry date.
5. No, the ICB is not intending to delegate its commissioning to our Local Authorities.
6. The process is:

To be considered and assessed for Direct Award Process B under The Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023 (PSR), providers should complete a Patient Choice Accreditation questionnaire on the Atamis e-tendering portal.

Please locate this questionnaire by following the below steps:

1. Log in to the supplier portal at <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

2. *Locate the opportunity in 'Find Opportunities' – (Patient Choice Accreditation – North East and North Cumbria ICB (Contract Reference Number – C228245))*
3. *Select 'Register Interest' – 'Confirm'.*
4. *From your Home page select 'Click Here' under 'My Proposals and Quotes'.*
5. *The questionnaire is located within the 'Requirements Section', please click into each of the links which are titled:*
 - *Initial Compliance Question to Patient Choice*
 - *Sections 1-5: Selection Questionnaire Part 1, 2 and 3*
6. *Once all questions are completed please click on 'Submit'.*

If you require technical assistance with the Atamis system, please contact Atamis directly via: Support-health@Atamis.co.uk or phone number 0800 9956035 Monday – Friday between 08.00 am – 06.00 pm.

If you have any other queries with regards to providing services to the ICB or have any queries with the questions within the questionnaire, please can these be directed to the ICB via the messages section on Atamis.

Should a provider pass this initial stage, the next part of the process will involve a more detailed assessment of whether the provider can meet our specific service requirements and we provide further information on this at that point.

7. 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. Details of the Healthy Weight and Treating Obesity workstream are available on the NENC ICB website [Healthy Weight and Treating Obesity | North East and North Cumbria NHS](#) This contains a message from the Clinical Lead.

In accordance with s.21 of the FOIA, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

The Clinical Lead for the programme is Dr Arutchelvam Vijayaraman. Please direct all queries to them using the ICB's generic mailbox necsu.nenc-icb.contactus@nhs.net with your email marked for their attention. Alternatively, please telephone the ICB's Switchboard on 0191-512-8484.

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