

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24-442

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By Email

28 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 12 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

We are carrying out an independent review of the way ICB's commission continuing health care packages for adults and children with complex needs to agencies, therefore under the freedom of information act we kindly request that you provide us with the following information.

1. Do you currently commission packages of care for adults and children with complex needs to agencies?
 - Yes
 - No
2. Do you currently operate a framework agreement and if not how do you commission CHC care packages to providers?
 - Name of framework
 - Is this framework open or closed
 - Link to apply for framework

3. If you do commission packages of care for adults and children with complex needs to agencies, what are the names of the agencies used and what is the average charge rate per hour?
 - Name of Provider
 - Average charge rate
 - Name of Provider
 - Average charge rate
 - Name of Provider
 - Average charge rate
4. What number of patients have CHC funding?
 - Of over £2000.00 per week
 - Of over £3000.00 per week
 - Of over £4000.00 per week
5. Number of care packages hours commissioned in the last 12 months (Jan 2024 - Jan 2025)?
 - 7 x 12-hour days
 - 7 x 12-hour waking nights
 - 24 hours
 - 24 hours 2-1
6. How many patients within your geographical patch with a minimum of 84 hours commissioned are currently waiting for a CHC assessment?
 - 10
 - 20
 - 30+
7. Over the last 12 months (Jan 2024 to Jan 2025) what has the expenditure for complex care packages been?
 - Adults with complex needs
 - Paediatrics with complex needs
 - Adults with learning disabilities and/or autism

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.

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 for North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland ICB places. However, we have determined that the information is held by the local authorities within these North East and North Cumbria region places.

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
North Tyneside Council	foiofficer@northtyneside.gov.uk
Northumberland County Council	foi@northumberland.gov.uk
South Tyneside Council	foi@southtyneside.gov.uk
Sunderland City Council	freedom.information@sunderland.gov.uk

The response below is for County Durham, Newcastle Gateshead, North Cumbria and Tees Valley ICB places.

1. Yes, NENC ICB currently commissions packages of care for adults and children with complex needs to agencies.
2. Yes, there is a framework. Applications are received via email to each area team in which the provider wishes to operate then considered by Commissioning team for acceptance.
3. There are no agencies used to commission these packages of care.
4. Patients with CHC funding over the amounts noted are:

Over £2000/week: 912
Over £3000/week: 567
Over £4000/week: 372

5. 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 a sufficient level of detail within the data to be able to provide a breakdown of hours.
6. 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.
7. NENC holds this data in financial years. The figures below are for financial year 2024/25 (April 2024 to March 2025), with actual figures to 28/02/2025, plus forecasted to 31/03/2025 to give a full year effect.

Adults with complex needs: £4,331,930.82
Paediatrics with complex needs: £636,682.37
Adults with learning disabilities & or autism: £1,647,093.04

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