

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–272

North East and North Cumbria ICB
Pemberton House
Colima Avenue
Sunderland Enterprise Park
Sunderland
SR5 3XB

Tel: 0191 512 8484
E-mail: nencicb.foi@nhs.net

By Email

31 October 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 on 9 October 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, Newcastle Gateshead, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley.

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

Your Request

1. What is the current wait time for initial health assessments for children placed in your area by an out of borough area? Who is the provider for this service (inc contact details)?
2. What is the current wait time for review health assessments for children placed in your area by an out of borough area? Who is the provider for this service (inc contact details)? Do you have a CLA specific CAMHS pathway for children placed in your area by an out of borough area?
 - a. If so, what are the current wait times?
 - b. If not, what is the current wait time for CAMHS triage and assessment for children placed in your area by an out of borough area?
 - c. Who is the provider for this service (inc contact details)?
3. What is the emotional health offer for children whilst they await a CAMHS assessment? Who is the provider for this service (inc contact details)?
4. What is the current wait time for neurodevelopmental assessments for children placed in your area by an out of borough area? Who is the provider for this service (inc contact details)?
5. Do you know of any barriers to accessing dental services for children looked after placed into your area?
6. Do you have any specialist services for children with obesity (i.e. complications of excess weight clinics)? Who is the provider for this service (inc contact details)?

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.

Where we have made reference to NENC ICB region acute and mental health trust providers in the ICB place responses below, we have provided contact information for those providers towards the end of this letter.

County Durham place

1. 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 for County Durham ICB place. However, we have determined that the information is held by County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT).
2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
3. 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 for County Durham ICB place. However, we have determined that the information is held by Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV).
4. 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 for County Durham ICB place. However, we have determined that the information is held by Public Health (County Durham), within Durham County Council.

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 address for Durham County Council – foi@durham.gov.uk – to allow you to make your request.

5. Please refer to the response to question 3.
6. Please refer to the ICB wide response to question 6.
7. Yes, there are specialist services for children with obesity within the NENC ICB region. These are provided by CDDFT in County Durham ICB place.

Newcastle Gateshead place

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 for Newcastle Gateshead ICB place. However, we have determined that the physical health service information is held by the Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT and Gateshead Health NHS FT, while all mental health services will be delivered by Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS FT.

North Cumbria place

1. Children/young people will usually receive an appointment within 3-4 weeks of receiving a referral.

2. Wait times for review health assessments are 8 weeks from receiving a referral in East Cumbria and 4 weeks from receiving a referral in West and South Cumbria.
3. 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 Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS FT.
4. Please refer to the response to question 3.
5. Please refer to the response to question 3.
6. Please refer to the ICB wide response to question 6.
7. Please refer to the response to question 3.

North Tyneside and Northumberland place

1. In North Tyneside and Northumberland ICB place, this service is provided by the children looked after nursing team at Northumbria Healthcare Foundation Trust (NHCFT) who's function sits within the child health business unit. The nursing team work across Northumberland and North Tyneside. NHCFT hold the data on waiting times the only data they share with the ICB safeguarding children's team is how many IHAs and RHAs have been completed in timescale.
2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
3. 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 for North Tyneside and Northumberland ICB place. However, we have determined that the information is held by NHCFT and Cumbria Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust.
4. Across both Northumberland and North Tyneside there is a graduated response offer provided by a range of organisations including Local Authority, NNHCFT, Harrogate and District Foundation Trust and the Voluntary Sector. This is attached.
5. NENC ICB is not aware of any barriers to accessing dental services for children looked after placed into the Northumberland and North Tyneside area.
6. Please refer to the ICB wide response to question 6.
7. There is a Complications from Excess Weight (CEWs) pilot being delivered at the Great Northern Children's Hospital in Newcastle, referrals can be made to this pilot from Northumberland and North Tyneside.

South Tyneside and Sunderland place

1. In South Tyneside and Sunderland ICB place, there are no waits once a referral has been received. The provider is South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust (STSFT).
2. There are no waits once a referral has been received. The provider is STSFT.
3. There is no dedicated CLA-specific CAMHS pathway, for CYP need CAMHS level services. All referrals are triaged by clinical need via the locality CYP mental health route. Where specialist Getting More Help / Risk Support there is a dedicated pathway through CNTW. The Getting Help commissioned provider is STSFT for South Tyneside and STSFT and Sunderland Counselling Service in Sunderland.
4. Children placed in Sunderland or South Tyneside by other local authorities have access to the same needs led Getting Help emotional wellbeing support as local residents. These services are not CLA-specific and are determined by clinical presentation or emotional need. Components of the Getting Help offer are:

- STSFT Getting Help function – brief, early-help support including guided self-help, brief counselling or CBT-informed work, psychoeducation, and liaison with schools/carers.
 - Typical contact: within 10 working days
 - First appointment: within 4 weeks for routine need
 - Urgent safeguarding triaged within 48 hours
- Kooth (digital) – moderated online counselling and peer support platform for children and young people.
 - Self-referral
 - 24/7 access to forums and resources
 - Scheduled sessions within service SLAs
- MHST (Mental Health Support Teams) – school-based early intervention service providing brief interventions for mild-to-moderate presentations, group sessions, and consultation with school staff.
 - Referrals via education settings
 - Warm handovers with Getting Help where needed
- Family Hubs (Sunderland & South Tyneside) – provide family and parenting support and signposting into emotional wellbeing services (0–19 / 0–25 SEND).
 - First point of contact for families and carers, not CLA-specific
- Sunderland Counselling Service – commissioned to provide accessible counselling for young people aged 10 and above who require structured talking therapy.
 - Referrals through GP, school, or self-referral depending on pathway.
- Autism Hub – South Tyneside – a community-based, needs-led early-support offer for children, young people, and families with neurodevelopmental needs, providing advice, drop-ins, and emotional regulation support prior to or alongside diagnostic assessment.
 - Operated by STSFT in partnership with local VCSE organisations.
- Daisy Chain Sunderland – a voluntary sector provider offering autism-specific emotional wellbeing, peer support, and early intervention for children, young people, and families, accessible through self-referral or professional referral.
 - Works in partnership with primary care, schools, and the Getting Help function to reduce distress and family breakdown risk.

5. The current median wait is 90 days.

6. Please refer to the ICB wide response to question 6.

7. There is one weight management dietitian in South Tyneside and Sunderland. The provider is STSFT.

Tees Valley place

1. 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 for Tees Valley ICB place. However, we have determined that the information is held by community paediatric teams within acute hospital trusts in the Tees Valley area. These hospitals are South Tees Hospitals NHS FT, North Tees Hospital and Hartlepool NHS FT and County Durham and Darlington 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 for Tees Valley ICB place. The service is provided by Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust's Children in Care Service. In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual

requesting information, the FOI web portal for Harrogate and District NHS FT is [Make a FOI request – Harrogate and District NHS FT](#)

3. There is no CLA specific CAMHS pathway for children placed by an out of borough area.
4. 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 TEWV. Links to the emotional health service offered by TEWV are detailed below:

<https://www.tewv.nhs.uk/services/camhs/>

As part of the waiting well offer there is also:

<https://www.tewv.nhs.uk/services/camhs/recovery-college-online/>

and

<https://www.tewv.nhs.uk/services/camhs/i-am-a-young-person-2/>

5. Please refer to the response to question 4.
6. Please refer to the ICB wide response to question 6.
7. Specialist services for children with obesity are provided by South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust at their James Cook site. The contact details are noted below, however, please note that this service is not dedicated to out of area children. The address is James Cook University Hospital, Marton Road, Middlesbrough. TS6 6TD. Telephone number is 01642 850850 and contact email is stees.cewservice@nhs.net

The ICB wide response to **question 6** is:

Access to routine dental care remains challenging and the ICB is exploring all options to improve the situation whilst we await national dental reforms. We are taking every opportunity to increase the units of dental activity that are commissioned and to improve access to urgent dental care. We have a local incentivised access scheme where practices have offered up appointments with the expectation that they prioritise patients in greatest clinical need and urgency. We have included looked after children as one of the priority groups within this scheme – details of the practices participating in this scheme are available on the ICB's website: [NHS dentistry | North East and North Cumbria NHS](#).

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 acute and mental health hospital foundation trusts in the NENC region in the table below:

NENC Acute Hospital FTs	Email
County Durham and Darlington NHS FT	cdda-tr.cddftfoi@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

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

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 Information 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 ICB's complaints procedure.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or 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

Information Governance Support Officer

**Information Governance Support Officer
North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board**