



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference SD\North East and North
Cumbria ICB\FOI ICB283

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

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

27 March 2023

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information – NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board

Thank you for your request received by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 17 March 2023 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

For information Clinical Commissioning Groups ceased to exist on 30 June 2022. Services that were previously delivered by the CCG are now being delivered by the successor organisation NHS North East and North Cumbria (ICB). This 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

I would like to submit a freedom of information request regarding your council's data linkage practices.

Data linkage (also known as matching, entity resolution or record linkage) is the process of joining data sets through deciding whether two records, in the same or different data sets, belong to the same entity (Harron et al., 2016).

Data linkage provides insight, informs policy change and helps answer society's most important questions through increasing the utility of administrative data. However, linkage presents challenges, as discussed in the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) 2018 report on joining up data, and more work needs to be done to realise its full benefit.

My colleagues and I are leading commissioned research that involves the linking of education (school census), social care (child in need census) and health data sets within NHS digital. I am interested to find out how many ICBs are linking data on children and young people and the barriers and enablers to the process.

1. Do you link health data sets for children and young people accessing health services?

Y/N/in development

2. Which health datasets are you linking, please state all the apply

Primary care (GP data)
Community Services Data Set (CSDS)
Children and Young Persons Service (CYPS)
Accident and Emergency data
Secondary care (CAMHS)
Secondary Uses Services (SUS) and HES
Community Services Datasets (CSDS)
Child Health Records
Deaths
Births
Other (please specify)

3. Which groups of children and young people do you link data on? Select all that apply

Children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
Children in Need
Children looked after (care experienced)
All children and young people
Other (please specify)

4. How are you using the linked data?

Strategic planning
Data dashboard
Joint commissioning
Service review
Targeted interventions (individuals)
Other (please specify)
We aren't using linked data

5. Do you currently link local health data sets with any Local Authority data sets?

Y/N/in development

6. Which LA datasets are you linking to health dataset? please state all the apply

School census
Children in Need (CiN) census
Children looked after return SSSDA903 data collection
Other (please specify)

Our Response

1. Do you link health data sets for children and young people accessing health services?

YES

2. Which health datasets are you linking, please state all the apply.

Primary care (GP data) YES
Community Services Data Set (CSDS) YES
Children and Young Persons Service (CYPS) Some local flows
Accident and Emergency data YES
Secondary care (CAMHS) NO
Secondary Uses Services (SUS) and HES YES
Community Services Datasets (CSDS) YES

Child Health Records NO
Deaths NO
Births NO
Other (please specify)

3. Which groups of children and young people do you link data on? Select all that apply.

Children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities YES
Children in Need Only for some areas of the ICB
Children looked after (care experienced) Only for some areas of the ICB, No
All children and young people YES
Other (please specify)

4. How are you using the linked data?

Strategic planning YES
Data dashboard YES
Joint commissioning YES
Service review YES
Targeted interventions (individuals) NO
Other (please specify)
We aren't using linked data

5. Do you currently link local health data sets with any Local Authority data sets?
YES

6. Which LA datasets are you linking to health dataset? Please state all the apply.

School census For SEND
Children in Need (CiN) census Only for some areas of the ICB
Children looked after return SSDA903 data collection Only for some areas of the ICB
Other (please specify)

In line 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 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 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.gov.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