

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24-463

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

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

By Email

26 March 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 26 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

Please can you advise whether you have a Section 75 Arrangement in place and, if so, please confirm who the arrangement is with and for how long? Are adults with learning disabilities, mental health needs and autism and it would be helpful to know if these services are covered within the Section 75 arrangement?

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB does hold the information requested.

County Durham place

The North East and North Cumbria ICB County Durham Section 75 agreements are with Durham County Council. These agreements are reviewed and renewed annually where required. The details in these agreements include services for people with adults with learning disabilities, those with mental health needs and autistic people.

Newcastle Gateshead place

Newcastle Gateshead Place as part of the ICB hold a number of Section 75 agreements with both Newcastle and Gateshead Council. These are

- Gateshead Carers Support Service – Due to end 31st March 2025
- Newcastle Speech and language therapy – Due to end 31st March 2025
- Newcastle contribution to Better Care Fund - Due to end 31st March 2025

These provide a universal service and are open to anyone who is eligible.

Newcastle Gateshead place hold no S75 agreements specifically in relation to mental health, learning disability and autism.

North Cumbria place

In North Cumbria we have Better Care Funds (Section 75) arrangements between the ICB and both Cumberland and Westmorland & Furness Local Authorities. These agreements cover a range of services that people with learning disabilities, mental health & autism will be able to access. We do not have a specific Section 75 agreement for adults with learning disabilities, mental health & autism needs.

North Tyneside and Northumberland place

For Northumberland, there is a Section 75 in place with Northumberland County Council for the Better Care Fund. This is a yearly arrangement as set out in line with national guidance from Department of Health and Social Care

In North Tyneside, a Section 75 is in place with North Tyneside Council for the Better Care Fund – yearly arrangement as set out in line with national guidance from Department of Health and Social Care

The Section 75 in place for the Better Care Fund in 24/25 does not specifically cover this year however the national guidance changes yearly. For 25/26, the national Objective 2 states, to “achieve more timely and effective discharge from acute, community and mental health hospital settings, supporting people to recover in their own homes (or other usual place of residence)”.

South Tyneside and Sunderland place

The ICB has several Section 75 agreements with Sunderland City Council and South Tyneside Council. They are renewed every year. Some services for people with adults with learning disabilities, mental health needs and autism are included in these.

Tees Valley place

Yes, there is a 12-month Section 75 agreement between the ICB and each local authority in the Tees Valley, which includes Hartlepool, Stockton-on-Tees, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, and Darlington. This agreement is effective from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. A new contract will be established for the financial year 2025/26. Each local authority has two section agreements: one for Continuing Healthcare arrangements and another for the Better Care Fund.

Adults with learning disabilities, mental health needs, and autism are included in the s75 continuing healthcare packages between the ICB and local authorities in Tees Valley.

For the 2024/25 period, the s256 partnership agreement for Darlington includes a Mental Health Advocacy service. In Middlesbrough, it covers the respite and community discharge team for learning disabilities, autism, and mental health. Redcar and Darlington's s256 partnership agreement also includes learning disability advocacy.

All s256 plans across Tees Valley offer autism services.

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