

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24-364

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By Email

30 December

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 17 December 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 information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the implementation of tirzepatide services, as outlined in NHS England document PRN01728 "Expanding access to the weight loss drug tirzepatide – FAQs". Regarding this document, please provide the following information:

1. Leadership and Implementation
 - a. Who is the designated senior responsible officer for implementing tirzepatide services within your ICS?
 - b. Which directorate/team will oversee the implementation of the staged approach referenced in Section 9 of the document?
 - c. What governance arrangements are in place or planned to manage the delivery timeline of 90 days for SWMS and 180 days for primary care, as specified in Section 2?
2. Service Planning
 - a. What plans have you developed to deliver the "wraparound care" referenced in Section 13?
 - b. How will you implement the prioritisation approach mentioned in Section 2 for the estimated 3.4 million eligible patients?

- c. What arrangements are being made to manage the "staged approach to service rollout within primary care" detailed in Section 9?

3. Clinical Pathways

- a. How will you implement the BMI thresholds (35 or 32.5 for specific ethnic groups) outlined in Section 7?
- b. What systems will be in place to manage the transition between SWMS and primary care services?
- c. How will you deliver the "specifically designed wraparound care required by NICE guidance" mentioned in Section 13?

4. Workforce and Resources

- a. What provisions are being made to ensure "healthcare professionals will need to be trained to deliver it" as mentioned in Section 8?
- b. How will you manage the "flow of patients to the health system so it does not become overwhelmed" as stated in Section 9?

5. Monitoring

- a. What arrangements will be in place to monitor implementation against the NICE evaluation referenced in Section 2?
- b. How will you track outcomes during the three-year evaluation period mentioned in the document?

Please provide the information in electronic format. If available, please include any relevant implementation strategies, clinical pathways, or guidance documents that have been developed.

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. Leadership and Implementation

- a. There is no ICB designated senior responsible officer for implementing tirzepatide services.
- b. Multiple directorates/teams will oversee the implementation of the staged approach referenced in Section 9 of the document.
- c. NENC governance arrangements for NICE approvals: Northern Treatment Advisory Group making a recommendation to Clinical Effectiveness Group, with further escalation to Executive Committee if required.

2. Service Planning

- a. Plans to deliver the "wraparound care" have not yet been confirmed.
- b. Implementation of the prioritisation approach has not been confirmed.
- c. Arrangements to manage the "staged approach to service rollout within primary care" have not yet been confirmed.

3. Clinical Pathways

- a. Implementation of the BMI thresholds has yet to be confirmed.
- b. Systems will be in place to manage the transition have not been confirmed.
- c. Delivery of the "specifically designed wraparound care required by NICE guidance" has not yet been confirmed.

4. Workforce and Resources

- a. Training provisions are still to be confirmed.
- b. Managing the "flow of patients to the health system is still to be confirmed.

5. Monitoring

- a. To monitor implementation against the NICE evaluation, NENC will use existing arrangements through Clinical Effectiveness Group, as for all other NICE technology appraisals.
- b. Outcome tracking is still to be confirmed.

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