

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24-084

NECS – John Snow House
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By Email

5 June 2024

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 22 May 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, under the Freedom of Information Act, the following information.

For **each of the last five years**, could you please provide:

1. The number of patients provided with wheelchair services in your ICB
2. The number of these patients that waited:
 - a) 18 weeks,
 - b) 12 months, and
 - c) 2 years to access wheelchair services
3. The longest:
 - a) low need,
 - b) medium need,
 - c) high need, and
 - d) specialist need patient waited to access wheelchair services

Please present the data in the following tables:

Question 1 – no. of patients accessing services:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
No. of patients					

Question 2 – length of wait:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
18 weeks					
12 months					
2 years					

Question 3 – longest wait:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Low need					
Medium need					
High need					
Specialist need					

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. However, this is published and available on the NHS England website: [Statistics » Wheelchair Data Collection \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/wheelchair-data-collection/)

In accordance with s.21 of the FOIA, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

As set out in 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 to complain to the Information Commissioner as established by s.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