

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24-103

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By Email

28 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 4 June 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

1. Do you currently have a community tele-dermatology provider?
2. If you have a provider that is not the acute trust(s), who are the providers covering your ICS?

If the answer to those questions is 'Yes', please also provide the following information:

- When did the service start?
- Who within the ICS partner organisations holds the contract (if not at ICB Level)
- What was/is the annual spend?
- What is the contract end date?
- Is there any extension pending on the dermatology contract?

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.

County Durham place

1. There is a community tele-dermatology provider in County Durham ICB place.
2. The providers are 6 GP with extended role in Dermatology and one GP Practice (Cestria Health Centre).
 - GP with extended role in Dermatology service commenced in 2016 and the Cestria Health Centre contract started in 2021.
 - Contracts are held by the ICB.
 - The services are tariff based therefore spend is dependent on service activity. Spend in 2023/24 for teledermatology service was £332,424.
 - Current contracts end on 31 March 2025.
 - There is no extension pending on the dermatology contract.

Newcastle and Gateshead, Northumberland and North Tyneside

NENC ICB does not have a community tele-dermatology provider in these ICB places. However, digital images are taken by GP practices to accompany dermatology referrals into secondary care. As the acute provider for dermatology, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust receives the referrals to triage as part of the core dermatology service.

North Cumbria place

1. There is an Acute & Community provider; this service is provided by North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust.
2. The acute trust named in the response to question 1 is the provider.

South Tyneside and Sunderland places

NENC ICB does not have a community tele-dermatology provider in these ICB places.

Tees Valley place

1. There is a community tele-dermatology provider in Tees Valley ICB place.
2. This provider is Ramsay Tees Valley Hospital (Tees Valley Treatment Centre).
 - The service started in October 2022.
 - The Tees Valley Treatment Centre contract is at ICB level.
 - Spend was £2,067 in financial year 2022/23 and £77,933 in financial year 2023/24.
 - Contract end date is 31 March 2027.
 - There is a 2-year option to extend on the contract.

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