

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria
ICB\FOI ICB799

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25 March 2024

By Email

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 05 March 2024 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

NENC ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley (which covers the 5 councils that make it up – Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees).

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

Your Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

1. Job title of the MSK lead for the ICS
2. Name of the MSK lead for the ICS
3. Does this role cover children's services or only adults?
4. Is this person funded for their work in this role?
5. Name and job title of lead for health equalities for the ICS.
6. What are the priorities for MSK service development for the ICS?

Our Response

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

1. Job title of the MSK lead for the ICS & 2. Name of the MSK lead for the ICS

Clinical Chair for the Alliance has just stepped down but it was Mike Reed, Clinical Director, Trauma & Orthopaedics, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The Co-Chair who is still in situ is Diarmaid Ferguson, Advanced Physiotherapy Practitioner, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Trust. Recruitment of a T&O Consultant Surgeon will be planned to replace Mike Reed should funding be obtained.

3. Does this role cover children's services or only adults?

Children and Adults

4. Is this person funded for their work in this role?

The posts have been funded by the ICB (certainly for this year). The ongoing continuation of funding is being discussed.

5. Name and job title of lead for health equalities for the ICS.

Jacqueline Myers, Executive Chief Strategy & Operations Officer.

6. What are the priorities for MSK service development for the ICS?

Currently within the MSK Alliance Terms of reference outlines it's priorities and objectives:

Elective Care Transformation is required to ensure patients needing planned care see the right person, in the right place, first and every time, and get the best possible outcomes, delivered in the most efficient way;

- better manage rising demand for elective care services*
- improve patient experience and access to care*
- provide more integrated, person-centred care*

We will work closely with partners including Getting It Right First Time to help NENC transform their elective care services and align their priorities.

Alliance aims and objectives (agreed at the outset);

- Empowering the established networks to make change*
- Providing relevant data and data support - Provision of focussed data across the established networks will allow greater concentration on areas of variation and increased performance and patient outcomes*
- Reducing low volume procedures / Promoting highly specialised care when needed. This will provide equity of access for patients and reduce variation in access and outcomes resulting in providing better care for patients*
- Improvement collaboratives*
- Sharing data / sharing ideas*
- Joint Procurement which will save money for trusts and the NHS*
- Supporting and dovetailing with the pre-secondary care initiatives*
- Referral pathways / mechanisms*
- Reducing surgery that's questionable*

With the MSK Alliance recently being passed over to the Provider Collaborative to support. The Alliance have discussed their work plan moving forwards and reviewing this in alignment with the refreshed Strategy for Elective Care signed off by the Strategic Elective Care Board for NENC.

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

Pamela Coxon

Pamela Coxon
Information Governance Officer