

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24–138

[NECS – John Snow House](#)
Durham University Science Park
Durham
DH1 3YG

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

By Email

3 July 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 28 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).

We have dealt with your request in accordance with your “right to know” under section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (subsequently referred to as FOIA2000) which entitles you to be provided with information “held” by a public authority unless an appropriate exemption applies.

Your Request

I would be most grateful if you would provide me, under the Freedom of Information Act, details in respect to positive behaviour support services for children and young people (CYP) with learning disabilities and autism within your ICB.

Positive behaviour support or behaviourally intensive community services can support CYP with high acuity needs presenting the most challenging behaviours to avoid hospitalisation, provide support to their families/carers and provide the individual with greater quality of life.

The details we require are:

1. Is there a positive behaviour support or behaviourally intensive community service available within the ICB?
2. If so:
 - a. Who delivers this service? (in-house teams, not-for-profit provider, independent / private provider)

- b. Is this service stand-alone or is it part of / a sub-team of another service?
 - i. (If so, what other services are included?)
 - c. How long has this service been in place?
3. Is the service a temporary or short-term service/project with a fixed end date?
 4. How is the service funded and from which budgets? (if funded by the ICB – then what is the relevant ICB budget category that funds this service?)
 - a. Is this expected to change in future?
 5. What has been the annual spend on the service year-on-year (for as many years as available)?
 6. Under this contract, how many children and young people are currently receiving these services?
 7. What are the referral criteria for individuals to access this service?
 8. If the service is being delivered by an external provider
 - a. How was the contract commissioned? Please confirm if it was direct award or via a formal procurement process?
 - b. The supplier of the current service and any unsuccessful suppliers
 - c. Who are the key stakeholders within the ICB responsible for commissioning?
 - d. What are the contractual performance KPIs for this service? Have they been achieved?
 - e. Does the ICB treat any cases with PBS services outside of this contract? If so, what has been the annual spend on these cases?
 9. If done via in-house teams: do any of the staff in the service have any specialist training and qualifications (e.g. certifications such as University or other training provider awards/credits) in challenging behaviours beyond their professional training?
 - a. What is the size of this in-house team?
 10. Do you intend to commission a behaviourally intensive community services in the next 12-24 months? If so, when will this be procured?

Our Response

On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested. However, we have determined that the information is held by Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust (CNTW).

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, we have provided the FOI email addresses for CNTW to make your request. This is foi@cntw.nhs.uk

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