

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria
ICB\FOI ICB776

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

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

By Email

12 March 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 15 February 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 2000, please can you provide me with information on primary care funding in your ICS.

1. The total amount of your ICS budget in pounds-sterling (£) that is allocated for funding primary care in each of the financial years a) 2023-2024, b) 2023-2022, c) 2022-2021, d) 2021-2020, e) 2020-2019
2. The percentage of your ICSs total budget that is allocated for funding primary care in each of the financial years a) 2023-2024, b) 2023-2022, c) 2022-2021, d) 2021-2020, e) 2020-2019
3. The total amount of your ICSs budget in pounds-sterling (£) that is allocated for funding primary care broken down by individual primary care locations in each of the financial years a) 2023-2024, b) 2023-2022, c) 2022-2021, d) 2021-2020, e) 2020-2019

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the

Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request. If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined, I would be grateful for any further advice and assistance.

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. Please refer to the spreadsheet attached for the response to question 1.
2. Please refer to the spreadsheet attached for the response to question 2.
3. 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, we have estimated that to provide you with the required information, would exceed the cost limit of £450 for the NHS as specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

S.12(1) of the FOIA provides that a public authority is not obliged to respond to a request for information if the cost of locating, retrieving, and extracting information and preparing the response can be included in the costs for these purposes.

We estimate for an average size GP practice, it would take approximately 5 minutes to review the records, as each practice has multiple elements of income paid for by the CCGs/ICB and these would need totalling. This time may vary slightly either way depending on the size of each GP Practice and the number of records to review.

As an example, for the financial year of 2023/24 there are 353 GP practices across the North East and North Cumbria area. Allocating 5 minutes per transaction, the NENC ICB estimates 353 practices x 5 minutes = 1,765 minutes, divided by 60 = 29 hours to extract the level of detail requested from our systems. NENC ICB is therefore unable to provide the requested information within the prescribed limit.

The request also asks for 5 years' worth of data. So approximately over 145 hours (which will vary depending on the number of practice's operating each year).

In accordance with our duty to provide advice and assistance under s.16 FOIA 2000, based on the answers to question 1, we could provide the number of practices for each CCG/ICB per year, and this can be used to produce an average GP cost.

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