



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference SD\North East and North
Cumbria ICB\FOI ICB410

NECS – John Snow House
Durham University Science Park
Durham
DH1 3YG

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

23 June 2023

Dear

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 13 June 2023 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, can you provide the following information:

1. What criteria did North East and North Cumbria ICS use to decide on the specific procedures, methodologies and equipment that would be used to complete the surgeries delivered by the [surgical hubs](#) commissioned by the Integrated Care System?
2. What public and patient consultation did North East and North Cumbria ICS carry out surrounding the specific procedures, methodologies and equipment that would be used to complete the surgical interventions delivered by the surgical hubs commissioned by the Integrated Care System; and can the ICS share any assessment, analysis or reporting done following this consultation?
3. What discussions or analysis has North East and North Cumbria ICS had or conducted on the need to adjust the way surgeries are delivered by the surgical hubs commissioned by the ICS, to make the delivery more efficient; and can the ICS share minutes of any discussion, or a copy of any analysis conducted?
4. Which specific procedures are conducted by Healthcare Professionals within each surgical intervention available in the surgical hubs commissioned by North East and North Cumbria ICS; and b) can the ICS provide a list of any applicable NICE Guidance

followed within the surgeries carried out in the surgical hubs commissioned by North East and North Cumbria ICS?

Please could I receive this information electronically, via email.

Our Response

Please find responses to your questions.

1. NENC ICB has not determined the use of specific procedures, methodologies or equipment that would be used in surgical hubs. National guidance together with support from NHS England clinical leads (GIRFT) has supported providers on which elements of their work could appropriately be carried out in an elective hub setting.

NENC ICS in recent years has supported providers to protect elective activity, within existing commissioning arrangements, including in some instances the separation of elective activity to designated sites. There are no accredited elective hubs in NENC at the present time, current position noted below.

There are 2 elective hubs currently in place – Northumbria Healthcare FT (Wansbeck, Alnwick, Hexham, North Tyneside) and North Tees and Hartlepool FT (North Tees accreditation visit June 2023, Northumbria will be considered at a later date).

2. The ICS did not carry out any public and patient consultation around the specifics to be delivered by elective hubs.
3. It is a matter for providers to decide how best to deliver surgery using best practice guidance. Theatre utilisation data is considered as part of trust oversight meetings in relation to theatre use generally, not specific to elective hubs.
4. NENC ICB does not hold information on specific procedures conducted by Healthcare Professionals within each surgical intervention available in the surgical hubs commissioned by North East and North Cumbria ICS.
5. Information is not held on NICE Guidance followed within the surgeries carried out in the surgical hubs commissioned by North East and North Cumbria ICS.

In line 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 make a complaint or 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 complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. 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.gov.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