

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 24-079

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By Email

19 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 21 May 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**

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your ICB. Please may you provide me with an answer to the following:

1. Does your ICB commission Tier 3 weight management service?
2. If answer to question 1 was yes:
  - a. In 2023/24 how much did your ICB spend on Tier 3 weight management services?
  - b. Who is commissioned to provide the Tier 3 services?
  - c. What are the start and end dates on these contracts?
  - d. How many patients are your Tier 3 services commissioned to provide care for?
  - e. Do the Tier 3 services you commission include pharmacotherapy?
  - f. Are your Tier 3 services face-to-face only, or do you commission a digital-only weight management service?
3. If answer to question 1 was no, do you have any plans to commission Tier 3 services in 2024/25?
4. Were patients prescribed Wegovy (semaglutide) in your ICB area in 2023/24?
5. If answer to question 4 was yes:

- a. How many patients were prescribed Wegovy in 2023/24?
- b. Clinicians from which organisations prescribed Wegovy in 2023/24?

- 6. Are there any plans to review your Tier 2 and Tier 3 weight management services in 2024/25?
- 7. Who in your organisation would be responsible for the commissioning of weight management services and/or diabetes? Please provide name, position and contact details where possible.

Please provide the information in an email, Microsoft Excel, or Microsoft Word document (whichever is most convenient)

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 have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for and discuss the request.

### 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. NENC ICB commissions a Tier 3 weight management service.
- 2. In response to question 2:
  - a. Please refer to the table below:

2023/24 Provider	2023/24 value	2023/24 Notes
County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust	n/a	Expenditure is part of a block payment. This is included within the block contract arrangement; total value is not disaggregated, and no specific service line is available.
Newcastle-upon-Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	n/a	Expenditure is part of a block payment. This is included within the block contract arrangement; total value is not disaggregated, and no specific service line is available.
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust (NCIC)	£125,000	
Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	n/a	Tier 3 weight management service for North Tyneside and Northumberland patients. This is included within the block contract arrangement; total value is not disaggregated, and no specific service line is available.
South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	£667,895	£500k Acute and £168k Community

- b. The following are commissioned to provide the Tier 3 services:
  - County Durham & Darlington NHS FT
  - Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT
  - North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT
  - Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT
  - South Tees Hospitals NHS FT
- c. Start and end dates on these contracts are 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027 with an option to extend for 2 years.

d. Tier 3 services commissioned to provide care for 3020 patients, broken down as:

County Durham & Darlington NHS FT	650
Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	100
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT	300
Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT	1070
South Tees Hospitals NHS FT	900

e. NENC ICB are currently implementing a new service specification with providers that requires pharmacological intervention to be available only after dietary, exercise and behavioural approaches have been started and evaluated.

f. Tier 3 services are face-to-face.

3. Please refer to responses to question 2.

4. Patients were prescribed Wegovy (semaglutide) in NENC ICB in 2023/24.

5. 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 NENC ICB does not hold any of the information requested. However, we have determined that the information is held by the acute hospital NHS foundation trusts (FTs) within the North East and North Cumbria region.

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 those acute hospitals to make your request.

<b>NENC Acute Hospital FTs</b>	<b>Email</b>
County Durham & Darlington NHS FT	cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT	foirequest@cumbria.nhs.uk
Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT	foi@northumbria.nhs.uk
South Tees Hospitals NHS FT	foi@stees.nhs.uk
The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	nuth.freedom.information@nhs.net

6. Tier 2 is the responsibility of Local Authorities with differing agreements in place across the 13 Local Authorities within the NENC. Work is underway to ensure consistent services are provided across all commissioned tier 3 services in the ICB in line with a new service specification.

7. There is no specific person in the ICB responsible for weight management services and/or diabetes. Please direct all correspondence to [necsu.nenc-icb.contactus@nhs.net](mailto:necsu.nenc-icb.contactus@nhs.net)

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](http://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](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) . This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

*S Davies*

**S Davies**  
**Information Governance Officer**