

Our Reference      North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 24–136

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

Tel: 0191 301 1300  
E-mail: [necsu.icbfoi@nhs.net](mailto:necsu.icbfoi@nhs.net)

By Email

4 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**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request information about patient safety incidents related to Medical Associate Professionals (MAPs), including Physician Associates and Anaesthesia Associates, within your ICB area.

Please provide the following data for incidents from 1st January 2021 to the present:

- 1) The number of Patient Safety Incident Investigations (or similar terminology, e.g. serious incident reports) related to MAPs within your ICB.
- 2) A breakdown of these investigations/reports by type of incident and severity of harm.
- 3) Anonymised copies of all relevant PSII reports and serious incident reports.
- 4) Copies of any learning documents, summaries of findings, and descriptions of implemented changes or actions taken to improve patient safety based on these incidents.

I appreciate that some information may need to be redacted in accordance with data protection laws. If providing any of the requested information might exceed the statutory cost limits, please advise on how I might modify my request to comply.

## 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. Serious Incident and Patient Safety Incident Investigation reports do not contain that level of detail regarding Medical Associate Professionals.

However, we have determined that the information is held by the acute and mental health 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 hospitals to make your request.

| <b>NENC Acute Hospital FTs</b>           | <b>Email</b>                       |
|--|------------------------------------|
| County Durham and Darlington NHS FT      | cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net           |
| Gateshead Health NHS FT                  | ghnt.foi.enquiries@nhs.net         |
| North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT     | foirequest@cumbria.nhs.uk          |
| North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT         | foi@nth.nhs.uk                     |
| Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT            | foi@northumbria.nhs.uk             |
| South Tees Hospitals NHS FT              | foi@stees.nhs.uk                   |
| South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT     | stsft.freedomofinformation@nhs.net |
| The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT | nuth.freedom.information@nhs.net   |

| <b>NENC Mental Health Hospital FTs</b>        | <b>Email</b>     |
|---|------------------|
| Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS FT | foi@cntw.nhs.uk  |
| Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS FT              | tewv.foi@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**