

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24-497

NECS – John Snow House
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By Email

25 March 2025

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 19 March 2025 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 have been informed that the migration from GROW to IG21 fetal growth charts at Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust was co-ordinated by the Local Maternity and Neonatal System and so my FOI request to the Trust needs to be directed to the ICB.

Here is my request:

1. Please share the decision-making and ratification process for the ICB (the LMNS or whichever group held responsibility) for changing from the GROW charts to the Intergrowth 21st charts? Please share all documentation related to this change, i.e- ratification or guideline group meeting notes, internal emails, etc.
2. When adopting either version of Intergrowth 21st (older or version from 18/03/25), did/will the ICB get Trusts to apply alterations of thresholds for small for gestational age (lower than 10th centile) or foetal growth restriction (lower than 3rd centile) based on consideration of local population variation and local perinatal mortality and morbidity?

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB on this occasion is not able 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.

1. At the point of change, this function was managed by the NHS England (NHSE) Regional Maternity Team.

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, the FOI email for NHSE is england.contactus@nhs.net Please write "Freedom of Information" in the subject line.

2. NENC ICB has not addressed this issue and on this basis does not hold the information requested.

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