

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24–510

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

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

By Email

22 April 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 28 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 am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your trust. Please may you provide me with an answer to the following:

Does your ICB currently commission Tier 3 weight management services?

If yes:

- a. How much did your ICB spend on Tier 3 weight management services in the last full financial year?
- b. Which provider(s) is/are commissioned to provide your Tier 3 services?
- c. On what basis are they commissioned (e.g. part of acute contract, AQP, Direct Award etc) and when does the contract expire?
- d. How many patients are your Tier 3 services commissioned to provide care for annually (by provider, if there are multiple)?
- e. Do you commission a Tier 3 weight management service giving patients the option of accessing the majority or entirety of their remotely, e.g. through Zoom calls or a digital platform?

- f. If not, do you have any plans to provide a remote/virtual/digital service in 2025/26?
- g. Can patients be referred to your Tier 3 weight management services via patient choice?
- h. Who in your organisation is responsible for the commissioning of weight management services? Please provide their name, position and contact details where possible?

If no:

- a. Are there any plans to commission a Tier 3 service in 2025/26?

Please provide the information in an email, Excel or 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.

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.

Yes, NENC ICB currently commissions Tier 3 weight management services. This will continue through 2025-26.

- a. For the 2024-25 financial year, North-East and North Cumbria ICB spent £1,079k on Tier 3 weight management services.
- b. The providers commissioned to provide Tier 3 services are:

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. They are commissioned as part of Acute Contracts. The contracts expire on 31 March 2027.
- d. Payment is made as a block contract. NENC ICB does not hold information on patient numbers.
- e. NENC ICB does not commission a Tier 3 weight management service giving patients the option of accessing remotely.
- f. There are no plans to provide this remote service in 2025-26.
- g. No, patients cannot be referred to the Tier 3 weight management services via patient choice.
- h. The Healthier Weight and Treating Obesity Strategic Manager is responsible for the commissioning of weight management services. Please contact them via email using the address necsu.healthyweight@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

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