

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24–226

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By Email

23 September 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 3 September 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 seeking information under the Freedom of Information Act, please can you provide the following:

1. Between April 6 – April 5, 2023/24, what was the ICB's total spend on Children's Mental Health?
 - a. Can you also provide this as a percentage of the overall ICB budget? Or simply, the figure for the overall budget of each ICB?
2. Between April 6 – April 5, 2023/24, what is the total number of children (under18) referred to CYPMHS/ CAMHS?
 - a. Can you also provide this as a percentage of the U18 population and/or the figure of the U18 population within the ICB.
 - b. What is the total number of children on the waiting list for mental health treatment within the ICB?
 - c. What is the average waiting time for children's mental health treatment with the ICB?

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 records expenditure recorded in financial years, so this response covers the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. The spend on children and young people's (CYP) mental health services during this period was £64 million. This spend excludes:

- Services for children and young people with learning disabilities and/or autism, and ADHD support or services, except where there is co-occurring primary mental health need.
- Services funded from specific service development funds (SDF)
- Specific drugs prescribed by GPs for the treatment of CYP mental health as we are unable to obtain that information.

This spend (with the exclusions noted above) equates to around 1% of the ICB's total budget for 2023/24.

2. 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. However, we have determined that the information is held by South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust (FT), Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS FT and Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS FT.

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.

NENC Acute Hospital FTs	Email
Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT	foi@northumbria.nhs.uk
South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT	stsft.freedomofinformation@nhs.net

NENC Mental Health Hospital FTs	Email
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

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 faithfully

S Davies

S Davies
Information Governance Officer