

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 24-086

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By Email

11 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 23 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 would like to request the following information about access to Tier 3 Weight Management Services, bariatric surgery and Wegovy under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If you are encountering practical difficulties with complying with this request, please contact me as soon as possible (in line with your section 16 duty to advise and assist requesters) so that we can discuss the matter and if necessary, I can modify the request.

If it is necessary for any reason to redact any information, please redact the minimum necessary and send me the rest of the material, explaining the legal grounds for each redaction.

**Contact details**

Please provide the name of your ICB.

**Tier 3 Weight Management Service**

1. Do you refer patients to a Tier 3 weight management service (WMS)?
  - a. If yes, how many patients are currently in your Tier 3 WMS?
  - b. How many patients were on the waiting list for Tier 3 WMS as of 30/04/24?

- c. What is the average waiting time for people to be seen by the service as of 30/04/24? (In months)

### Access to bariatric surgery

2. Do you offer bariatric surgery?
  - a. If yes, how many non-diabetic patients received bariatric surgery between 01/09/23 and 30/04/24?
  - b. If yes, what is the average waiting time for bariatric surgery as of 30/04/24? (In months)

### Access to Wegovy

3. Do you offer Wegovy?
  - a. If yes, please specify any other eligibility criteria you impose in addition to the NICE technology appraisal.
  - b. How many patients received Wegovy between 01/09/2023 – 30/04/2024?
  - c. How many patients do you have capacity / resources to treat annually with Wegovy?
4. If you would like to make any clarifying notes or comments, please use the text field below.

### 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:

### Contact details

The name of the ICB is NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board.

### Tier 3 Weight Management Service

1. The ICB does refer patients to a Tier 3 weight management service (WMS).
  - a. All services are operating at capacity (3020 patients).
  - b. 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 that the 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 (NENC) 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.

NENC Acute Hospital FTs	Email
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

- c. Please refer to the response to question 1.b.

### **Access to bariatric surgery**

2. Yes, bariatric surgery is offered.
  - a. Please refer to the response to question 1.b.
  - b. Please refer to the response to question 1.b.

### **Access to Wegovy**

3. Yes, Wegovy is offered.
  - a. Regional Drug and Therapeutics Centre (RDTC) for NENC classified the drug as red, thus only available to patients in specialist weight management services.
  - b. Please refer to the response to question 1.b.
  - c. Work is underway to ensure consistent services are provided across all commissioned tier 3 services in the ICB.
4. No clarifying notes or comments.

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**