



# North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference North East & North Cumbria  
ICB FOI 391

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01 June 2023

By Email

Dear Sir or Madam

## **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 30 June 2023 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

NENC ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland and Tees Valley (which covers the 5 councils that make it up – Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees).

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

### **Your Request**

I am contacting you on behalf of **Fertility Network UK**. We provide free and impartial support, advice, information and understanding for anyone affected by fertility issues and we are keen to ensure that our services are reaching the right people at the right time. We believe that your Integrated Care Board could play a part in helping us to achieve this.

We're always working to ensure that we are providing the most accurate support and information for our service users and wondered if you could provide us with your **current Fertility Policy** and any relevant information regarding funding and access to treatments in your area? If this is currently under review, please could you inform us of the consultation dates and timeline for any changes. We're aware some ICBs are still operating using former CCG policies, if this is the case please let me know.

## **Our Response**

*Please see the attached most up to date VBCC Policy (version 12) for NENC ICB. We can also confirm that we are not currently reviewing our fertility policies.*

In line 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 make a complaint or 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 complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. 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.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.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

*Pamela Coxon*

**Pamela Coxon**  
**Information Governance Officer**