

Our Reference

HM\ North East & North  
Cumbria ICB\ FOI ICB115

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Goldcrest Way  
Newburn Riverside  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE15 8NY

Your Reference

24 November 2022

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**Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request for Information – NHS North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB)**

Thank you for your request received by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 27 October 2022 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.

For information Clinical Commissioning Groups ceased to exist on 30 June 2022. Services that were previously delivered by the CCG are now being delivered by the successor organisation NHS North East and North Cumbria (ICB). This covers the areas of County Durham, Newcastle Gateshead, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland and Tees Valley.

**Details of Request**

The questions relate to the NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) and should be answered separately for financial years 2019/2020, 2020/2021, and 2021/22. We have given examples of model answers to help you respond. **Please note: We do not need information on North Tyneside, Newcastle and Gateshead, and Sunderland.**

- 1. How many NHS providers (hospital or community) do you commission to provide audiology diagnostic services?**
- 2. How many NHS providers (hospital or community) do you commission to provide hearing aid services?**
- 3. Do you commission non-conventional hospital/community providers such as those on a High Street e.g., Boots, Specsavers to provide audiology diagnostic services? If so, how many?**

4. Do you commission non-conventional hospital/community providers such as those on a High Street e.g., Boots, Specsavers to provide hearing aid services? If so, how many?
5. What is your tariff for audiology diagnostics (e.g. hearing tests)?
6. What is your tariff for audiology rehabilitation (hearing aid prescription, fitting and care)?
7. What is included within the tariff for auditory rehabilitation (e.g. assessment, hearing aid prescription and fitting (one or two) and a routine follow up)
8. What was your total spend on audiology diagnostics for each financial year asked for?
9. What was your total spend on audiology rehabilitation (hearing aid fittings and care) for each financial year asked for?
10. How many new hearing aids did you commission for each financial year asked for?
11. Did you receive a report from your audiology providers detailing actual activity for each financial year?
12. Would you be happy to participate in a future study that required all of your audiology providers to submit a standardised detailed report of actual activity undertaken (this would be written within the contracts between ICB's and their audiology providers)?

## **Response**

### **County Durham**



CD - Appendix  
A.docx

### **North Cumbria**



Appendix A -  
NC.docx

### **Northumberland**



NOR - Appendix  
A.docx

### **South Tyneside**



STyne - Appendix  
A.docx

## **Tees Valley**



TV - Appendix  
A.docx

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

*Hilary Murphy*

**Hilary Murphy**  
**Information Governance Officer**