



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference SD\North East and North
Cumbria ICB\FOI ICB616

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16 November 2023

Dear

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 14 November 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 writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request specific information regarding the structure and staffing of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) services provided by NHS North East and North Cumbria ICB. Our request relates to various departments within the CCG, including the Continuing Healthcare (CHC) team, Personal Health Budget (PHB) team, Individualized Funding Care staff, and Safeguarding team.

We kindly request the following information:

For the **CHC** Team:

- a. The total number of staff in the CHC team.
- b. A breakdown of the CHC team staff, including the number of clinical staff, managers, administrative staff, and invoice validation staff.
- c. The name of the head of service for the CHC team, along with their contact details (email and phone number).
- d. The name and contact details (email and phone number) of the administrative staff responsible for CHC services.

For the **Personal Health Budget (PHB)** Team:

- a. The total number of staff in the PHB team.
- b. The name of the head of service for the PHB team, along with their contact details (email and phone number).
- c. The name and contact details (email and phone number) of the administrative staff responsible for PHB services.

For **Individualized Funding Care** Staff:

- a. The total number of staff involved in providing individualized funding care.

For the **Safeguarding** Team:

- a. The total number of staff in the Safeguarding team.

Additionally, we would like to request information regarding the finance staff responsible for overseeing the management of CHC, Children and Young People (CYP) services, and PHB.

For the **Finance** Staff:

- a. The name of the finance staff responsible for overseeing CHC.
- b. The name of the finance staff responsible for overseeing CYP services.
- c. The name of the finance staff responsible for overseeing PHB.

We understand the importance of confidentiality and privacy, and we assure you that any personal information obtained will be treated in accordance with relevant data protection laws and regulations.

Please provide this information in a machine-readable format, such as a Word document or Excel spreadsheet, if possible. If providing the information would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please inform us of this and guide us on how we can refine our request. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to receiving the requested information.

Our Response

North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) publishes the organisational chart on their [website](#) therefore, this information is available to you via other means and is exempt under s.21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Additionally, the latest organisational charts for the North East and North Cumbria ICB (NENC ICB) populated with individual names and job titles is exempt from disclosure by virtue of s.22 FOIA 2000 which exempts information intended for future publication. NENC ICB are currently under a restructuring exercise following the amalgamation of the former Clinical Commissioning Groups last year, and as such are in period of consultation to best determine how they can meet the emerging needs of their local communities.

It is considered that it is reasonable in all the circumstances that information should be withheld from disclosure until the intended date of future publication. The NENC ICB organisational structures are currently being prepared and consulted with staff therefore, they are expected to be available on the NENC ICB website after 31st March 2024. We believe that to adhere to the agreed publication schedule is sensible, in line with accepted practices, and fair to all concerned. With this sort of information, it is correct to manage the availability of the information by planning and controlling the timetable of publication requires internal consideration of the information prior to its public release. Therefore, we believe it is reasonable all the circumstances to withhold this information at this time.

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.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