



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference SD\North East and North
Cumbria ICB\FOI ICB333

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3 May 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 19 April 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.

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

Your Request

Please provide the following information for the Northumberland Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust for the years 4 years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022. I appreciate that some assessments carried out in 2022 may still be ongoing so please provide the information available as at the time of replying to this request.

1. Total number of CHC assessments carried out in the calendar year.
2. Number judged by the nurse assessor not to meet eligibility for CHC funding.
3. Number that the CHC Panel agreed did not meet the eligibility criteria.
4. Number of Appeals lodged against the ineligibility decisions.
5. Number of Appeals (in point 4 above) refused by the CHC Appeals and Restitution Panel (i.e. original decision upheld – patient not eligible for CHC funding).
6. Number of Appeals sent to NHS England for independent review.
7. Number of Appeals refused by NHS England (i.e. patient not considered eligible for CHC funding).
8. Number of 'complaints' against ineligibility made to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman.
9. Number of complaints resulting in patient being eligible for CHC funding.

Please advise if you need any clarification of this request.

Our Response

Question and Year	2019	2020 (note 2)	2021	2022
1. Total number of CHC assessments carried out in the calendar year.	730	339	616	548
2. Number judged by the nurse assessor not to meet eligibility for CHC funding (note 1)	264	121	218	180
3. Number that the CHC Panel agreed did not meet the eligibility criteria.	264	121	218	180
4. Number of Appeals lodged against the ineligibility decisions	21	11	26	21
5. Number of Appeals (in point 4 above) refused by the CHC Appeals and Restitution Panel (i.e. original decision upheld - patient not eligible for CHC funding)	11	15	10	5
6. Number of Appeals sent to NHS England for independent review.	3	2	0	2
7. Number of Appeals refused by NHS England (i.e., patient not considered eligible for CHC funding)	3	2	0	1
8. Number of 'complaints' against ineligibility made to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman.	0	0	0	0
9. Number of complaints resulting in patient being eligible for CHC funding.	0	0	0	0

Note 1: The CHC panel ratifies the MDT decision, so figure should be similar (DL).

Note 2: Due to the Covid pandemic, there was a National decision that CHC assessments would be stepped down and CHC Teams deployed to acute working. Therefore, between March and September 2020, CHC assessments were deferred. Assessments deferred during this period were subsequently completed between September 2020 and March 2021.

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

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