

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria
ICB\FOI ICB765

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15 February 2024

By Email

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 13 February 2024 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 would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act.

1. Could you please provide the current policy the ICB has on working from home for non-patient-facing staff.
2. What rules/ expectations/ policies are set by the ICB in terms of employees working from the office?
3. Are any staff groups exempt from these rules? If so, please give details.
4. When was this policy issued?
5. Please could you detail any changes to the WFH policy from a) April 2020 and b) September 2022?
6. Do you plan to change your work from home/ office policies in the next year? If so, please detail the changes.
7. How regularly is the ICB monitoring office attendance/working from home?
8. How many staff in non-patient-facing roles are currently.

- Working full time from the office
- Working full time from home
- Working from office 1 day a week
- Working from office 2 days a week
- Working from office 3 days a week
- Working from office 4 days a week
- Working from office 5 days a week

9. Has there been any disciplinary action taken against any member of staff for not working in the office? Are any cases being investigated?

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB does hold the information requested.

1. *There is currently no home working policy within ICB*
2. *No policy is in place*
3. *No as no policy exists*
4. *N/A*
5. *N/A no changes.*
6. *N/A No policy to change from at this time*
7. *No monitoring system is currently in place*
8. *Unknown as no monitoring in place*
9. *No disciplinary action or cases investigated currently.*

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

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

Pamela Coxon

Pamela Coxon
Information Governance Officer