



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria
ICB\FOI ICB735

NECS – John Snow House
Durham University Science Park
Durham
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Tel: 0191 301 1300
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30th January 2024

Applicant
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 24 January 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

- 1. Does the Trust currently use an Operating Microscope for the purposes of Ophthalmic Surgery? [YES / NO]**
- 2. How many pieces of microscopy equipment does the operating department use for Ophthalmic Surgery, and what is the manufacturer, model and age? [Please list these, including Manufacturer, Model, and Age of Equipment]**
- 3. Are these microscopes free-standing or ceiling-mounted? [Floor-standing / Ceiling-Mounted]**
- 4. Is this equipment owned, leased or rented by the department? [Owned / Leased / Rented]**
- 5. If the equipment is Leased or Rented, how long is this contract, and when does it come to an end? Is there an option to extend the contract? Is this**

- contract linked to the purchase of any related consumables, e.g. IOLs?**
 [Length], [Date], [YES / NO], [RELATED CONSUMABLE?]
6. **Does the Trust / department plan to replace these after a fixed time period, and if so, what is this time period in years?** [YES / NO], [Years]
 7. **Does the Trust / Department currently have a service contract in place for this equipment with either the equipment manufacturer or another maintenance provider?** [MANUFACTURER / 3rd PARTY / NO]
 8. **Is the Trust currently in the buying cycle for new ophthalmic microscopy equipment?** [YES / NO]
 9. **If Yes, when is this procurement exercise expected to take place?** [Expected Date]
 10. **If No, does the Trust plan to start the buying cycle within the next 3 years?** [YES / NO]
 11. **What is the Trust's route to market for new pieces of ophthalmic microscopy equipment?** [Direct Purchase Agreement / NHSSC / Other]

Our Response

On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested.

You will need to redirect your request to the Foundation Trusts as follows:

NENC Acute Hospital FTs	Email
<i>County Durham & Darlington NHS FT</i>	<i>cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net</i>
<i>Gateshead Health NHS FT</i>	<i>ghnt.foi.enquiries@nhs.net</i>
<i>North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT</i>	<i>foirequest@cumbria.nhs.uk</i>
<i>North Tees & Hartlepool NHS FT</i>	<i>foi@nth.nhs.uk</i>
<i>Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT</i>	<i>foi@northumbria.nhs.uk</i>
<i>South Tees Hospitals NHS FT</i>	<i>foi@stees.nhs.uk</i>
<i>South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT</i>	<i>stsft.freedomofinformation@nhs.net</i>
<i>The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT</i>	<i>nuth.freedom.information@nhs.net</i>

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

Ehren Smith

Ehren Smith
Information Governance Officer