



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference SD\North East and North
Cumbria ICB\FOI ICB602

NECS – John Snow House
Durham University Science Park
Durham
DH1 3YG

Tel: 0191 301 1300
E-mail: necsu.icbfoi@nhs.net

20 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 7 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 would like to make a formal request under the Freedom of Information Act for information relating to the providers of Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) hubs within North East and North Cumbria ICS for the current year. Can you please provide the following information:

1. Which of the following high impact intervention areas have been chosen as a priority for North East and North Cumbria this winter:
 - Same day emergency care
 - Frailty
 - Inpatient flow and length of stay (Acute)
 - Community bed productivity and flow
 - Care transfer hubs
 - Immediate care demand and capacity
 - Virtual wards
 - Urgent community response
 - Single point of access
 - Acute respiratory infection hubs

2. The names of all providers responsible for operating acute respiratory hubs within North East and North Cumbria ICS.
3. Details of any contracts or agreements between the North East and North Cumbria ICB and the providers of these services, including start and end dates.

If any of the requested information is not available, please provide as much information as possible and let me know which details are missing. Please also confirm receipt of this request. Thank you in advance and I look forward to hearing from you soon with the requested information.

Our Response

1. The high impact intervention areas chosen as a priority for North East and North Cumbria this winter are:
 - Frailty
 - Community bed productivity and flow
 - Care transfer hubs
 - Virtual wards
2. Discussions are taking across the ICB to develop ARI hubs in each Place area subject to funding being made available. There is no agreement to date on funding ARI hubs and this is currently being explored.
3. There are no formal contracts in place as the service has not been commissioned as yet. Some PCN's may decide to provide ARI appointments as part of their existing contract arrangements.

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