

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24–295

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By Email

6 November 2024

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 October 2024 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (the ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley (which covers the five local authorities of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and 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 request, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, for the following information that I believe is held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board.

1. A copy of NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board's system-level plan for patient choice.
2. The name and (work) contact details for NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board's system-level patient choice Senior Responsible Officer.

I would prefer to receive this information electronically, if possible. For avoidance of doubt, the information requested specifically refers to instructions included in [this letter](#), sent on 25 May 2023 to all Integrated Care Boards in England from Sir James Mackey, Dr Amanda Doyle and Sir David Sloman. The letter includes the following section:

ICB colleagues will need to play a role across the pathways of care to ensure that patient choice is being enabled. The specific asks of ICBs are:

- *ICBs ensure that there is a system level plan for patient choice which ensures compliance with the regulatory requirements and raises the profile of patient choice.*
- *ICBs identify a system level patient choice SRO and communicate this to the region.*

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. Please refer to the attached Patient Choice plan, redacted to remove individual names.
2. Jacqueline Myers, NENC ICB Chief Strategy Officer is the patient choice Senior Responsible Officer. She can be contacted at jacqueline.myers1@nhs.net

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

S Davies

S Davies
Information Governance Officer