

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 24-010

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

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

By Email

15 April 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 3 April 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 am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), to request the following information.

Please provide me with data for the years 2022-2023 and 2024 (if available) for the following information for data relating to Ophthalmology services across the ICS.

Please break down all information by category relating to Ophthalmology treatment code 130. Include all activity against codes WF01A, WF01B, WF02A, WF02B.

The total number of patients referred for ophthalmology treatment in the last 12 months
Please breakdown all information by category relating to Ophthalmology treatment code 130. Include all activity against codes WF01A, WF01B, WF02A, WF02B
Inpatients
Outpatients
For inpatient treatment, total admissions per month, average length of stay, number of admissions by day of week per month and discharges by day of week per month

Total referrals from Primary Care and originating ICS by month, Total wait for first appointment, total new, follow up (as above) and then total wait to first appointment and total wait for follow up appointment, number of patients currently waiting for first appointment and number waiting for follow up appointment
Number of patients who had first appointment cancelled and re-referred to another provider
Number of patients in point 5 who were referred to another NHS provider
Number of patients in point 5. who were referred to Private Provider

If it's not possible to provide the information requested due to the cost of compliance limits identified in section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for and discuss the request, my details are outlined below.

Thank you for your time and I'm looking forward to your response.

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB holds some of the information you have requested. This is detailed in the attached spreadsheet.

Please note that your request asks for data relating to Ophthalmology services across the ICS. The data provided relates to our ICB patients irrespective of whether treatments/ attendances take place within the boundary of the ICB. Similarly, activity at local ICB providers will cover more than our ICB patients. A full picture of activity at local ICB providers would need to come from the providers themselves.

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, we have provided the FOI email addresses for those acute hospitals to make your request.

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