

Our Reference

HM\ North East & North  
Cumbria ICB\ FOI ICB448

**NECS - Riverside House**  
Goldcrest Way  
Newburn Riverside  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE15 8NY

Your Reference

10 July 2023

Tel: (0191) 217 2625  
E-mail: [Necsu.icbfoi@nhs.net](mailto:Necsu.icbfoi@nhs.net)

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request for Information – NHS North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB)**

Thank you for your request received by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 05 July 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).

**Details of Request**

Please may you provide me with answers to the following questions:

1. How many patient transport journeys were booked for discharging patients in 2021/22?
2. What was the total cost of these journeys?
3. How many of these journeys were 'out of hours' and to non-contract providers? And how much did these cost?
4. How do the hospitals book transportation for discharging patients? Is there an IT system?

**Response**

- 1) *We are not the holders of this information, please redirect to NEAS to answer - <https://www.neas.nhs.uk/contact-us/foi-requests.aspx>*
- 2) *The NEAS contract is a block value and covers all PTS including discharges, however, during 2021/22 NHS FT contracts were paid for centrally by NHSE and so financial costs were covered by central funding and covid top up funding.*
- 3) *Please redirect to NEAS to answer part 1 (out of hours), part 2 – we do not hold that information in the ICB for 21/22 and part 3 (cost) is the same answer as part 2.*
- 4) *We are not the holders of this information, please redirect to NEAS to answer.*

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.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.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](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) . This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

*Hilary Murphy*

**Hilary Murphy**  
**Information Governance Officer**