

Our Reference      North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 25-076

**North East and North Cumbria ICB**  
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Sunderland  
SR5 3XB

Tel: 0191 512 8484  
E-mail: [nencicb.foi@nhs.net](mailto:nencicb.foi@nhs.net)

By Email

19 June 2025

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 on 3 June 2025 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, Newcastle Gateshead, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley.

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

**Your Request**

I am writing under the FOI Act 2000 to request the following information:

1. How much the ICB spends a year on taxis or other forms of transport for residents of asylum hotels to attend hospital, dentist and GP appointments, and their return journeys. Please can you provide data for calendar years 2022, 2023 and 2024 and 2025 (as much as you have). Please can you also provide data for the year since the 4 July 2024.
2. How much the ICB spends a year on taxis or other forms of transport for GPs, dentists or any hospital staff to visit asylum hotels. Please can you provide data for calendar years 2022, 2023 and 2024 and 2025 (as much as you have). Please can you also provide data for the year since the 4 July 2024.

Under Section 16 of the Act, if you cannot provide me with this information, please assist me in obtaining this information.

**Our Response**

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.

1. Travel expenses for all eligible patients are claimed through the HC5(T) form, the ICB does not hold the information to the level requested. The HC5 forms are issued and checked by the NHS Business Services Authority, as they check for eligibility, NI info, etc. They may hold the number of claims they review; their FOI email is [foirequests@nhsbsa.nhs.uk](mailto:foirequests@nhsbsa.nhs.uk) To note, they recommend applicants check their publication scheme of responses prior to submitting a FOI request: <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/what-we-do/publication-scheme>
2. The ICB does not hold the financial information in relation to payments of travel expenses for employees of different organisations. Individual GP practices, Dentists and Trusts may keep records of each journey and what it relates.

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 NENC foundation trusts to make your request.

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

<b>NENC Mental Health Hospital FTs</b>	<b>Email</b>
Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS FT	<a href="mailto:foi@cntw.nhs.uk">foi@cntw.nhs.uk</a>
Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS FT	<a href="mailto:tewv.foi@nhs.net">tewv.foi@nhs.net</a>

For your reference, a list of GP practices is available on the NHS Digital website: [GP and GP practice related data – NHS England Digital](#) The GP Practices full file name is **epraccur** and for your reference, NENC ICB's Organisation Data Service (ODS) code is **QMH**.

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 ICB's complaints procedure.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or [www.ico.org.uk](http://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](http://www.legislation.gov.uk). This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours faithfully

*Information Governance Support Officer*

**Information Governance Support Officer  
North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board**