

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–350

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

17 December 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 28 November 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

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request information regarding the use of clinical insourcing services within Community Diagnostic Centres (CDCs) under your Integrated Care Board. For the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26 to date, please provide the following:

1. Use of Clinical Insourcing
Does the ICB, or any CDCs within your region, utilise clinical insourcing providers to support diagnostic activity or increase CDC capacity?
2. Provider and Contract Details
If clinical insourcing has been used during this period, please provide:
 - a. The names of all insourcing providers engaged.
 - b. The specialties or diagnostic modalities delivered through these providers.
 - c. Whether each contract was tendered or directly awarded.
 - d. The contract start dates and end dates (or current expiry if ongoing).
3. Financial Information
Total spend on clinical insourcing services within CDCs for FY2024/25 and FY2025/26 to date, ideally itemised by specialty or provider if available.

For clarity, clinical insourcing refers to the practice whereby external healthcare providers deliver diagnostic or clinical services within NHS facilities (including CDCs) using in-house equipment and infrastructure, typically to increase capacity or reduce waiting lists.

If possible, I would appreciate the information to be provided in an electronic format such as Excel or CSV.

If this request exceeds the cost limit under Section 12 of the Act, I would be grateful if you could advise how the scope may be refined to remain within the statutory limit.

Our Response

1. We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB on this occasion is not able to provide the requested information. 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. However, we have determined that the information is held by the acute hospital NHS foundation trusts (FTs) within the North East and North Cumbria region that run the CDCs.

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 contacts for those foundation trusts to make your request.

NENC Acute Hospital FTs	Email/Online portal
County Durham and 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 and Hartlepool NHS FT	nth-tr.foi@nhs.net

2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
3. NENC ICB pays the trusts for Community Diagnostic Centres (CDC) activity. The ICB does not hold information on clinical insourcing services spend by the trusts. Any arrangements for CDCs, how they are run, and if use clinical insourcing. etc. would be answered by the FTs.

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 Information 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.

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 faithfully

Information Governance Support Officer

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