

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26–273

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

8 September 2026

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 26 August 2026 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 to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. To assist the ICB in responding within the appropriate cost limit, I have scoped these questions to the most recently completed financial year.

1. Does the ICB hold a written policy, procedure, or internal guidance document setting out the circumstances in which the ICB will fund, refuse to fund, or reduce funding for transport to support the community-based or social care needs of individuals eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare? If so, please provide a copy.
2. For the most recently completed financial year, how many individuals assessed as eligible for NHS Continuing Healthcare had a request for ICB-funded transport (to support assessed community-based or social care needs) refused, reduced, or made conditional on the use of a disability-related social security benefit, including but not limited to the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment?
3. Does the ICB's policy, procedure, or internal guidance referred to in question 1 (or any other document held by the ICB) contain wording to the effect that a person's receipt of the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment is, of itself, a

reason to refuse or reduce ICB-funded transport? If such wording exists, please provide it verbatim, together with the title and date of the document in which it appears.

4. What guidance or training material, if any, has been issued to Continuing Healthcare case managers or decision-makers on how disability-related benefits, such as Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment, should be treated in transport funding decisions? Please provide copies of any such material.

If any part of this request is unclear, or if the ICB considers the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit, I would be grateful if you would contact me to discuss how the request might be refined, rather than refusing it outright.

Our Response

1. The ICB does not hold a written policy setting out the circumstances in which the ICB will manage this funding. Transport funding is assessed on a case-by-case basis.
2. On this occasion it is not possible 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.
3. Please refer to the response to question 1.
4. Please refer to the response to question 1.

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**