

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26–201

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

18 August 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 23 July 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 regarding the contract between Psychiatry UK and NHS Northeast and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board. Local Hospital Trust Board (NCIC. The contract caters for the Adult ADHD service in West Cumbria.

I understand that the above-named parties entered into a new contract arrangement that commenced in April 2026. Any recorded information, policies, service specifications, or prescribing guidance relating to changes in ADHD medication prescribing arrangements under this contract.

Please can the following be confirmed:

1. Confirmation of whether Psychiatry UK prescribing practice has changed following the new contract, specifically whether short-release dexamphetamine (immediate-release dexamphetamine) is no longer available to be prescribed under the terms of the new contract.
2. If short-release dexamphetamine is no longer prescribed, please provide
 - the date this change took effect;
 - the reason for the change;
 - any guidance or policy documents explaining this decision;

- a. the date this change took effect;
- b. any alternative treatment options recommended for patients who were previously prescribed this medication.
- c. Any communications or guidance issued to patients regarding changes to dexamphetamine prescribing following the new contract.

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB does hold the information requested.

1. Psychiatry UK's prescribing practice has not changed following the new contract. The new contract does not refer to changes in ADHD treatment options.

The ICB publishes a NENC wide formulary that prescribers are recommended to follow. This formulary details ADHD treatment recommendations for prescribers to use to support their clinical decision making. This is publicly available at <https://ntag.nhs.uk/north-east-north-cumbria-ics-formulary/>

For your reference, the specific link to dexamphetamine formulary information is:
<https://www.northeastnorthcumbriaformulary.nhs.uk/chaptersSubDetails.asp?FormularySectionID=4&SubSectionRef=04.04&SubSectionID=A100&drugmatch=4365#4365>

2. The ICB can confirm that our formulary continues to align with NICE guidelines with short-release dexamphetamine (immediate-release dexamphetamine) available where there is clinical response to lisdexamfetamine but the longer duration of effect is not tolerated. This also aligns with NENC ADHD formulary.

NENC ICB recommends prescribers to use the [NENC ICB formulary](#) to help support their clinical prescribing decisions when treating patients.

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**