NHS
North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\ FOI ICB 26–337

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

5 October 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 28 September 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

Please treat this as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust has directed me to you as you hold the below information. I am seeking the following information:

1. Has the trust been able to provide home birth services 24 hours a day, seven days a week without any suspensions, pauses, restrictions or limitations to that ability in the last 12 months ending August 2026? If that period is not available, please provide figures for the most recent 12 months available and specify what period they cover.
2. Please list the number of suspensions and restrictions to home birth services in this period, the dates on which these occurred, the terms of each suspension/restriction (full, partial) and reason(s) for each suspension and restriction.

If you do not hold this information, please confirm which parts of the requested data are not held. If you require clarification, contact me before processing.

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.

2. 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