

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–418

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

22 January 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 15 January 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 submitting a Freedom of Information request regarding the provision of cardiac diagnostics within primary care settings across the ICB.

12-Lead ECG Provision

1. Does the ICB reimburse PCNs or GP Federations for conducting 12-lead ECGs in primary care?
2. If yes, what reimbursement rate or tariff is paid?
3. Which ECG device suppliers or service providers are currently commissioned or recommended for use in primary care?
4. Where applicable, what is the cost per device or service charged by these suppliers to the ICB?

Holter Monitoring Provision

5. Does the ICB reimburse PCNs or GP Federations for delivering Holter monitoring in primary care?
6. If yes, what reimbursement rate or tariff applies?
7. Who are the current suppliers or outsourced providers used for Holter monitoring?
8. What is the unit cost or service fee paid to these providers?

If any of the above differs by PCN, Federation or locality within the ICB footprint, please provide this detail where available.

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB holds some of the information you have requested.

County Durham place

1. In County Durham there is a local incentive scheme. This is a block contract consisting of a range of additional service to be provided in primary care over and above the core GP contract. ECGs are part of this block payment of £12.74 per head.
2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
3. The current contract with Express Diagnostics is activity based and is only in place for practices in North Durham. South Durham practices perform their own ECGs and there is no reimbursement.

ECG equipment was purchased by the CCG a few years ago for practices who did not already own kit to enable them to deliver the service as part of the contract for the local incentive scheme. Some practices already had kit, so we purchased from spacelabs to ensure equity across the geography.

4. ECGs are costed at £19.74 (this includes administration, operating and maintenance costs).
5. Please refer to the response to question 1.
6. Please refer to the response to question 1.
7. The current contract with Express Diagnostics is activity based and covers the whole of County Durham.
8. Holter's are costed at £46.76 (this includes cardiologist overread).

Newcastle Gateshead place

1. The ICB reimburse PCNs or GP Federations for conducting 12-lead ECGs in primary care if practices are signed up to the ECG Local Enhanced Service.
2. The payment is £35 per ECG.
3. There are no ECG device suppliers or service providers are currently commissioned or recommended for use in primary care.
4. Please refer to the response to question 3.
5. No, the ICB does not reimburse PCNs or GP Federations for delivering Holter monitoring in primary care.
6. Please refer to the response to question 5.
7. Please refer to the response to question 5.
8. Please refer to the response to question 5.

North Cumbria place

1. No, the ICB does not ICB reimburse PCNs or GP Federations for conducting 12-lead ECGs in primary care in North Cumbria.
2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
3. The ICB does not dictate or recommend ECG device suppliers or service providers.
4. Please refer to the response to question 3.

5. Three providers in North Cumbria who offer community access to 24-hour ECG monitoring. Please note, this may be different to Holter Monitoring.
6. The table below shows the provider and costs.

Provider	Cost
Mansion House Surgery (GP Practice)	Individual contract £8.06 per 30 min slot £845.29 per month HCA administration
North Cumbria Primary Care Ltd (GP Practice contract holder)	Part of a wider service contract £18,437 annual block contract (1/12 th paid monthly)
Trinity Pharma (Community Pharmacy) – have recently served notice	Individual contract £18,387 annual block (1/4 paid quarterly)

7. Please refer to the response to question 6.
8. Please refer to the response to question 6.

North Tyneside and Northumberland place

1. NENC ICB does not hold contracts with PCNs or GP Federations for conducting 12-lead ECGs in primary care in North Tyneside and Northumberland ICB place. On this basis 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.
2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
3. Please refer to the response to question 1.
4. Please refer to the response to question 1.
5. NENC ICB does not hold contracts with PCNs or GP Federations for delivering Holter monitoring in primary care in North Tyneside and Northumberland ICB place. On this basis 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.
6. Please refer to the response to question 5.
7. Please refer to the response to question 5.
8. Please refer to the response to question 5.

South Tyneside and Sunderland place

1. Yes, NENC ICB has ECGs as part of our Local Enhanced Service in South Tyneside and Sunderland.
2. There is no specific reimbursement rate or tariff as this is conducted as part of a range of other services that we commission from practices.
3. We do not commission specific device suppliers. Devices are the responsibility of practices to obtain themselves.
4. Please refer to the response to question 3.
5. No, the ICB does not reimburse PCNs or GP Federations for delivering Holter monitoring in primary care.
6. Please refer to the response to question 5.
7. Please refer to the response to question 5.
8. Please refer to the response to question 5.

Tees Valley place

1. No, PCNs or Federations are not reimbursed for conducting 12-lead ECGs in primary care, however, individual general practices are commissioned via a local enhanced service to provide the test
2. General practices are not paid a reimbursement rate or tariff for this test alone, they are paid for this under a 'basket of service arrangement'
3. The ICB does not recommend a particular device or service provider- This is determined by individual practices.
4. The ICB does not hold this information as the ICB is not involved in any individual arrangements with practices or their suppliers.
5. PCNs or Federations are not reimbursed for delivering Holter monitoring in primary care, however, individual general practices are commissioned via a local enhanced service to provide ABPM.
6. General practices are not paid a reimbursement rate or tariff for ABPM; they are paid for this under a 'basket of service arrangement'.
7. The ICB does not hold this information or recommend a particular device or service provider- This is determined by individual practices.
8. The ICB does not hold this information as the ICB is not involved in any individual arrangements with practices or their suppliers.

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**