

Our Reference      North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 24–507

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By Email

14 April 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 by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 26 March 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, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley (which covers the five local authorities of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees).

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

**Your Request**

I am requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am researching GP prescribing expenditure and understand that your ICB holds more up-to-date data than what is publicly available. I would be grateful if you could please provide the following data for GP prescribing expenditure within your ICB:

- Planned year-to-date expenditure (£m)
- Actual year-to-date expenditure (£m)
- Planned budget for the full financial year (£m)
- Forecast expenditure for the full financial year (£m)

The latest YTD data I have is up to Dec-24. As your board meeting has recently concluded, I expect more recent data is now accessible.

Please note:

1. My request relates to the 2024/25 financial year.
2. For the YTD expenditure, please specify the exact period it covers (e.g., up to the end of month 8, 9, 10, etc.).
3. I am specifically requesting data for the General Medical Practice primary care prescribing budget, i.e., the costs of prescribing by those employed in General Medical Practice – GPs, practice nurses, and clinical pharmacists.
4. If it is not possible to separate the above from other categories of expenditure, please indicate which additional categories are included when you provide the figures.

If any clarification is required, please don't hesitate to ask. I look forward to your response within the statutory timeframe.

## **Our Response**

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

The 2024/25 year-to-date position is as at month 11 (February 2025).

- Planned year-to-date expenditure: £544,171,554
- Actual year-to-date expenditure: £563,894,095
- Planned budget for the full financial year: £593,641,696
- Forecast expenditure for the full financial year: £614,312,210

The above data is the drugs reimbursement costs for GP practices (including out of hours) for the North East and North Cumbria ICB commissioning area.

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 Senior 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 complaints procedure provided by the North of England Commissioning Support Unit.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire

SK9 5AF

[www.ico.org.uk](http://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](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) . This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

*S Davies*

**S Davies**  
**Information Governance Officer**