

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 25–509

North East and North Cumbria ICB  
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By Email

7 April 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 9 March 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 seeking copies of all NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) and NHS-funded Nursing Care (FNC) local policies, procedures, guidance documents and local protocols that were in force within the Tees Valley place of the North East and North Cumbria ICB during the period March 2025 to March 2026.

This includes any documents that were:

- inherited from former CCG arrangements but still in use during this period, and
- replaced or updated by ICB-issued documents between March 2025 and March 2026.

For avoidance of doubt, I am requesting all CHC-related documents used locally in Tees Valley during that period, including but not limited to:

- MDT processes
- Completion of the Decision Support Tool
- Domain scoring guidance
- Family involvement guidance
- Local dispute resolution processes
- Panel arrangements
- Joint working protocols with the Local Authority

- Any documents described as “local protocols” for CHC or FNC

For each document, please also confirm:

- the date it was created or adopted
- the date it was last reviewed
- the date it was replaced (if applicable)

## **Our Response**

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.

There were no local policies or procedures relating to NHS continuing healthcare and NHS funded nursing care that were in force during March 2025 to August 2025. The Tees Valley place team follow the National Framework for Continuing Healthcare and the practice guidance associated with this.

The ICB outsourced the CHC service to NHS North of England Commissioning System Support (NECS) during the specified time frame. There have been two TUPE transfers on 01/04/2024 and 01/04/2025. Files and folders that were transferred during document migration have been searched to answer this FOI, however there are no documents found within the accessible folders that match the criteria requested.

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, we have provided the FOI contact for NHS England who manage FOI requests for NECS – [england.contactus@nhs.net](mailto:england.contactus@nhs.net) – should you wish to redirect your request. Please write “Freedom of Information” in the subject line.

Please note that the following policies were agreed for use across the ICB from January 2023:

- ICBP002 Continuing Healthcare Local Resolution and Appeals Policy:  
<https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/media/zatbankp/continuing-healthcare-local-resolution-and-appeals-policy.pdf>
- ICBP003 Choice and Equity Policy:  
<https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/media/wtyh1xct/choice-and-equity-policy.pdf>

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](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 faithfully

*Information Governance Support Officer*

**Information Governance Support Officer  
North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board**