

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25-449

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

20 February 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 24 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 should be so very grateful if you would kindly provide the following information in respect of the decision taken last year in relation to gluten free prescriptions:

1. A copy of the public engagement document on public consultation for the proposals.
2. A copy of the survey form used for the public consultation exercise.
3. The name of the committee or committees of the Board at which decisions relating to the proposals were made or recommended, the date on which those decisions/recommendations were made and a copy or copies of the relevant minutes of the said meetings.
4. A copy of any written report considered by the committees referred to in 3 above and also any report on the results of the public engagement exercise.

Our Response

1. On this occasion 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.

The gluten free prescriptions change was not a public consultation but involvement to understand the impact of the proposal.

2. 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. However, a copy of the gluten-free prescription change report is available on the ICB website: [gluten-report-final-report-nov-2025.pdf](#). The survey form is appendix 2 of that report.

In accordance with s.21 of the FOIA, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

3. Decisions relating to the proposals were made at NENC ICB's Executive Committee meetings on 9 June 2025 and 14 October 2025. Copies of the meeting minutes relating to gluten free prescribing are attached.
4. Please refer to the response to question 2.

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, Wycliff 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**