

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–519

North East and North Cumbria ICB
Pemberton House
Colima Avenue
Sunderland Enterprise Park
Sunderland
SR5 3XB

Tel: 0191 512 8484
E-mail: nencicb.foi@nhs.net

By Email

19 March 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 13 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 writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please could you provide the following information in relation to your Integrated Care Board:

1. Whether the ICB's formulary content is available in a structured digital format suitable for system integration, for example via an API, data feed or export.
2. Whether any available formulary dataset includes formulary status or restriction information, for example:
 - approved
 - restricted
 - not recommended
 - traffic light or RAG classifications
 - indication-level rules or prescribing criteria
3. Whether there is any technical documentation available relating to access or integration and if so the process for obtaining developer or technical access.
4. Details of any licensing terms, data sharing agreements or other conditions that would apply to the use of this information within NHS-affiliated clinical systems.

5. Whether there are any restrictions relating to third-party suppliers working in collaboration with NHS GP practices within your ICB area.
6. Whether the formulary is hosted and managed directly by the ICB or provided via a third-party platform supplier. If a third-party provider is used, please provide the name of the supplier where possible.
7. If programmatic or structured access is not currently available whether this is being considered as part of any future digital development plans or roadmap.

If any of this information is already publicly available, please provide links to the relevant sources.

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 formulary is managed by and hosted by the Northern Treatment Advisory Group (NTAG).

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, the link to the NTAG website is: [NTAG – Northern Treatment Advisory Group](#).

2. The formulary is available on the NTAG website and does state the RAG status of drugs. The link to the formulary is: <https://ntag.nhs.uk/north-east-north-cumbria-ics-formulary/>
3. Please refer to the response to question 1.
4. 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.
5. The ICB does not hold information on restrictions relating to third-party suppliers working in collaboration with NHS GP practices within the NENC region. In terms of technical challenges, the ICB would expect full interoperability of any new systems, and any new system funded by the ICB would be subject to procurement rules and due process.
6. Please refer to the response to question 2.
7. The ICB does not hold information on plans around programmatic or structured access.

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**