

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26–200

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

18 August 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 22 July 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 about prostate specific antigen testing and prostate cancer diagnosis in England.

Please provide the following, for the calendar years: 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 to date, unless stated otherwise.

1. The number of PSA tests requested in primary care in each year, broken down by age band and by region.
2. The number and percentage of prostate cancer diagnoses at each stage, one to four, in each year, by region.
3. The number of prostate cancers first identified through an emergency presentation, for example via A&E, in each year.
4. The number of men diagnosed with prostate cancer through the urgent suspected cancer referral route in each year.
5. The average treatment cost per patient for prostate cancer, broken down by stage at diagnosis, for each year where this is held.
6. The total annual NHS spend on prostate cancer treatment in each year.

7. The number of radical prostatectomies, including robot assisted procedures, and the number of radical radiotherapy courses carried out in each year, with the unit cost or tariff applied to each where held.

The median and 90th percentile number of days from GP referral to first urology outpatient appointment, in each year, by trust or region for:

8. The median number of days from first GP appointment to prostate MRI, and from MRI to biopsy, in each year.
9. The number of men breaching the 28-day faster diagnosis standard, and the number breaching the 62-day referral to treatment standard, for suspected prostate cancer in each year.

Where held, please break each figure down by age band (18 to 25, 26 to 34, 35 to 44, 45 to 54, 55 to 64, 65 to 74, and 75 and over), by ethnicity, and by index of multiple deprivation decile. If any breakdown is not recorded, please say so.

Please supply the data as a spreadsheet, Excel or CSV, rather than as a PDF. If any part of this request would exceed the cost limit, please treat each numbered question as a separate request, tell me which part is affected, and advise how it could be narrowed, in line with the duty to assist under section 16 of the Act.

Our Response

1. 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. However, we have determined that the information is held by the individual GP practices within the North East and North Cumbria region

For your reference, a list of practices is available on the NHS Digital website: [GP and GP practice related data – NHS England Digital](#) The GP Practices full file name is **epraccur** and for your reference, NENC ICB's Organisation Data Service (ODS) code is **QMH**.

2. The number and percentage of prostate cancer diagnoses at each stage, one to four, in each year for the Northern Cancer Alliance is noted below.

NCA Prostate diagnoses						
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Unknown	Total
2021	476	91	522	448	625	2162
2022	699	181	748	428	655	2712
2023	1051	156	872	550	423	3052
2024	1430	146	995	581	280	3432
2025	1606	156	996	541	268	3567

2021	22%	4%	24%	21%	29%
2022	26%	7%	28%	16%	24%
2023	34%	5%	29%	18%	14%
2024	42%	4%	29%	17%	8%
2025	45%	4%	28%	15%	8%

NCA Prostate diagnoses								
	USC	Emergency presentation	GP referral	Inpatient elective	Other outpatient	Unknown	DCO	Total
2021	1407	212	418	4	91	17	14	2162
2022	1919	194	452	5	88	22	31	2712
2023	2118	210	575	10	99	20	21	3052
2024	2414	260	561	14	121	48	15	3432
2025 Jan - Nov	2318	214	585	19	97	36	19	3288

2021	65%	10%	19%	0%	4%	1%	1%
2022	71%	7%	17%	0%	3%	1%	1%
2023	69%	7%	19%	0%	3%	1%	1%
2024	70%	8%	16%	0%	4%	1%	0%
2025 Jan - Nov	71%	7%	18%	1%	3%	1%	1%

Notes to the data:

- Early-stage diagnosis: the unknowns are excluded from the calculation, with the stage 1 and 2 being divided by all staged cancers.
- We have also provided all routes to diagnosis, you can just take the emergency presentation numbers, 2025 data is Jan – Nov only for routes to diagnosis.

For your reference, we have also provided links to published national and rapid cancer registration data sets:

Stage at diagnosis, NRDS: [Stage at diagnosis – NDRS](#)

Rapid Cancer Registration data set: [Rapid Cancer Registration Data set \(RCRD\) – NDRS](#)

National Cancer Registration data set: [Cancer – NDRS](#)

- Please refer to the table provided in response to question 2.
- The number of men diagnosed with prostate cancer through the urgent suspected cancer referral route in each year is publicly available here: [Statistics » Cancer Waiting Times](#). Therefore, the ICB considers this element of your request exempt from disclosure by way of s.21 as the information is readily accessible by other means.
- 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. However, we have determined that the information is held by NHS England.

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 email address for NHS England: england.contactus@nhs.net. Please write "Freedom of Information" in the subject line.

- Please refer to the response to question 5.
- 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. However, we have determined that the information is held by the acute hospital NHS foundation trusts (FTs) within the North East and North Cumbria region.

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 contacts for those foundation trusts.

NENC Acute Hospital FTs	Email/Online portal
County Durham and Darlington NHS FT	cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net
Gateshead Health NHS FT	ghnt.foi.enquiries@nhs.net
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT	foirequest@cumbria.nhs.uk
North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT	nth-tr.foi@nhs.net
Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT	foi@northumbria.nhs.uk
South Tees Hospitals NHS FT	stees.foi.admin@nhs.net
South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT	stsft@infreemation.co.uk
The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	https://www.newcastle-hospitals.nhs.uk/help/foi/

The number of men diagnosed with prostate cancer through the urgent suspected cancer referral route in each year is publicly available here: [Statistics » Cancer Waiting Times](#). Therefore, the ICB considers this element of your request exempt from disclosure by way of s.21 as the information is readily accessible by other means.

8. Please refer to the response to question 1.

9. Please refer to the response to question 4.

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**