



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26-013

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

14 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 13 April 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(FOIA) (or the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA), where applicable. Please treat this as a request for recorded information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board.

This request is to understand publicly recorded information about headache/migraine service configuration and staffing to inform health system engagement planning. No commercial promotion is intended.

We are contacting the FOI/Information Governance function only for recorded information. We are not requesting any clinical advice or patient-level data.

To help you respond efficiently, I have set out the questions below and provided definitions. If any part of this request exceeds the appropriate cost limit or requires clarification, please advise how it may be refined to fall within the limit.

www.northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk 

NorthEastandNorthCumbriaNHS 

NENC_NHS 

Definitions (for this request)

'Headache & migraine service' means any commissioned, hosted, or directly provided service/clinic (secondary care, community, or integrate) that offers assessment and/or ongoing management of headache disorders (including migraine) for adults and/or children, whether stand-alone or embedded within neurology/pain services.

'Clinical/service lead' means the named clinician responsible for clinical leadership of the headache/migraine service/pathway (e.g., consultant neurologist, GPwER, or other appointed lead).

'Workforce size' refers to staff who work within, or are formally allocated to, the headache/migraine service/pathway. Please provide both headcount and Whole Time Equivalent (WTE), where available.

Requested information (please answer for your organisation).

1. Service existence and configuration

- a. Does your NHS body host, or directly provide a dedicated headache and/or migraine service/clinic? If yes, please specify whether it is: dedicated headache clinic; migraine clinic; neurology clinic with dedicated headache sessions; community service; or other (please describe).
- b. Please provide the service name(s), provider organisation(s)/site(s), and patient group(s) served (adult, paediatric, or both).

2. Named clinical/service lead

- a. Please provide the name, job title, and employing organisation of the current named clinical/service lead for the headache/migraine service/pathway.
- b. If there is no single named lead, please provide the name(s) and title(s) of the most senior clinician(s) responsible for headache/migraine care/pathway governance.

3. Workforce size (headcount and WTE)

For the most recent 12-month period available (or the latest point-in-time establishment), please provide the staffing complement allocated to the headache/migraine service/pathway, broken down as follows:

- a. Nurses (including headache specialist nurses/ANPs) – headcount and WTE, and banding (e.g., Agenda for Change band) if recorded.
- b. Pharmacists (clinical pharmacists, prescribing pharmacists, medicines optimisation) – headcount and WTE, and banding/grade if recorded.
- c. Administrative/clerical staff – headcount and WTE, and banding/grade if recorded.
- d. Any other staff groups materially involved in the service (optional but helpful): consultants/medical staff, allied health professionals, psychologist, physician associates – headcount and WTE.

4. Service capacity indicators (optional but helpful)

- a. Number of headache/migraine clinics/sessions delivered per week or per month (or annual total).
- b. Number of new and follow-up appointments for headache/migraine in the last 12 months (if recorded).
- c. Current waiting time for first appointment (e.g., median or RTT measure used locally) for headache/migraine referrals.

Preferred response format

Please provide the response by email. If it is easier, questions 1–3 can be answered in a simple table (e.g., Excel) with headings matching the questions above. Where exact WTE is not recorded, an establishment figure or best available recorded proxy is acceptable (please state which).

Data protection note

This request is for organisational/service information. Where you consider that a personal data exemption applies (e.g., if you believe naming an individual is not appropriate), please provide the job title/role and the responsible team/directorate instead.

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 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 to make your request.

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/

2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
3. Please refer to the response to question 1.
4. Please refer to the response to question 1

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**