

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26-089

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

5 June 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 27 May 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 you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your ICB. The questions relate to dermatology services your ICB commissions, including the use of teledermatology. Please could you provide me with answers to the following:

1. Dermatology referral activity

Please provide data for the last 3 full financial years on the following for your ICB:

- The total number of new referrals onto a dermatology Referral to Treatment (RTT) pathway
- The total number of urgent suspected cancer (two-week wait) referrals for skin cancer
- The total number of skin cancers diagnosed

2. Community dermatology provision

Does your ICB currently commission a community dermatology service, separate from acute trust-based provision? If yes, please state:

- The name of the organisation or organisations providing it
- Whether the service includes a teledermatology component

3. Teledermatology commissioning status

Does your ICB currently commission a teledermatology service? If yes:

- Please confirm whether this is commissioned as a standalone service or as part of a wider community dermatology or dermatology pathway contract.
- Please state the name of the organisation or organisations currently providing the teledermatology service
- Please state the start date, end date, and total contract value of the current teledermatology service

If no:

- Is there an active or planned procurement for a teledermatology service currently under way or anticipated within the next 24 months? If yes, please provide details of the anticipated timeline.

4. Teledermatology platform

A number of ICBs and/or their providers commission teledermatology platforms (e.g. SkinAnalytics, eDerma, etc) so that photos can be uploaded and reviewed to assess for likelihood of skin cancers. Is a teledermatology software platform currently in use in your ICB area? If yes:

- Please state the name of the teledermatology software platform or system currently in use. If more than one platform is in use across the ICB area, please list all
- Please state the start date, end date, and total contract value of the current teledermatology platform contract

If no:

- Is there an active or planned procurement for a teledermatology platform currently under way or anticipated within the next 24 months? If yes, please provide details of the anticipated timeline.

5. Advice and Guidance

Does your ICB currently use a digital platform to support dermatology Advice and Guidance between primary and secondary care? If yes, please state the platform in use.

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

Our Response

1. 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, information on referral to treatment and cancer wait times is publicly available at:

[Statistics » Referral to Treatment \(RTT\) Waiting Times](#)
[Statistics » Cancer Waiting Times](#)

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.

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, this is available within the NENC ICB publication scheme which can be accessed on the ICB website: [Publications scheme](#) or please refer to our previous related request, our ref: FOI ICB 25-340 from the NENC ICB FOI Disclosure Log at: [FOI ICB 25-340 Response Letter](#)

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. The ICB are currently assessing all avenues regarding teledermatology, however, we currently commission four hospital foundation trust providers for skin cancer as part of the acute contracts. These acute trusts use tele-dermatology to triage and assess images where these are provided with the referral.

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
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT	foirequest@cumbria.nhs.uk
South Tees Hospitals NHS FT	stees.foi.admin@nhs.net
The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	https://www.newcastle-hospitals.nhs.uk/help/foi/

4. The ICB is currently running a pilot at North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust. The trust is using "Map my Mole" digital dermatology platform for a period of 3 months (30 March 2026 until 30 June 2026). The ICB is currently assessing all avenues regarding tele-dermatology including the use of digital platforms as part of the wider review.
5. Please refer to the response to question 3.

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**