

Our Reference      North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 25–112

North East and North Cumbria ICB  
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By Email

8 July 2025

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 23 June 2025 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**

1. Can the ICB please confirm what accreditations are currently ongoing or soon to go to market?
2. Can you provide a list of the specialities that are being accredited e.g., Dermatology, Ear Nose Throat, Cardiology etc. We understand that these accreditations are in response to amendments to the National Health Service Commissioning Board and Clinical Commissioning Groups (Responsibilities and Standing Rules) Regulations which came into force on 1 January 2024.

The amendments seek to replace competitive procurement with a Provider Accreditation process whereby providers who meet the commissioning requirements, full pathway service specification and qualifying criteria, are awarded an NHS Standard Contract (zero-based) for delivery of that service under Direct Award Process B of the Provider Selection Regime.

3. Can you provide details of the Procurement Lead and the email address of the team who are co-ordinating the accreditations so that we can contact them to explore any opportunities to engage in the process?

## Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB does hold the information requested.

1. Any expression of interest recorded will be reviewed. The accreditation process is detailed further in the response to question 2.
2. The specialities are elective services led by a consultant or mental health care professional where the ICB or NHS England has a legal duty to provide patients with a choice of provider [as set out in Part 8 of the National Health Service Commissioning Board and Clinical Commissioning Groups (Responsibilities and Standing Rules) Regulations 2012 (as amended).]

North East and North Cumbria ICB have an open project on the Atamis e-tendering portal (please see link below) which allows providers to express their interest in delivering services applicable to the above. Atamis link is <https://atamis-1928.my.site.com/s/Welcome>.

Providers must register on Atamis, the project can then be located by following the below steps:

- a. Locate the opportunity in 'Find Opportunities' – (Patient Choice Accreditation 2 – North East and North Cumbria ICB (Project Reference Number – **C350309**))
  - b. Select 'Register Interest' – 'Confirm'.
  - c. From your Home page select 'Click Here' under 'My Proposals and Quotes'.
  - d. The questions are located within the 'Requirements Section'
  - e. Once all questions are completed please click on 'Submit'.
3. The contact address for the Procurement team is [nencicb.procurement@nhs.net](mailto:nencicb.procurement@nhs.net) however, we ask that any correspondence is received via the project C350309 on Atamis system as per above.

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 Senior 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](http://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](http://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**