

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26–276

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

15 September 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 28 August 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'm requesting the following information under the Freedom of Information Act:

1. A list of any companies paid since the start of 2022/23 to either:
 - a. advise the ICB (or its predecessor ICBs) in relation to Continuing Healthcare (CHC) expenditure
 - b. advise the ICB (or its predecessor ICBs) in relation to handling applications for (or renewals of) CHC, or
 - c. assess applications for (or renewals of) CHC.
2. For each company listed in response to question 1, please state:
 - a. when they began working for the ICB (or its predecessor ICBs) in relation to CHC (this can usually be taken as when the contract took effect; in some cases, this may be before the start of 2022/23, if the work carried on into that financial year)
 - b. when they finished working for the ICB (or its predecessor ICBs) in relation to CHC
 - c. an overview of the work they were doing
 - d. how much they were paid
 - e. whether they were paid, in whole or in part, based on any savings they achieved (e.g. a share of foregone expenditure) – and if so, how much, and how this was calculated?

3. Please provide any reports that were written for the ICB (or its predecessor ICBs), by the companies listed in response to questions 1a and 1b, in relation to the work performed as per questions 1a and 1b since the start of 2022/23.
4. For each financial year since 2022/23, including 2026/27, please state any efficiencies/savings from CHC or section 117 aftercare expenditure that were budgeted for in the annual ICB budget setting, and full-year performance/delivery against those budgeted savings (or for its predecessor ICBs).

Our Response

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.

1. There are no companies paid by NENC ICB to advise or assess these continuing healthcare activities.
2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
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 prior to 2024/25. For 2024/25 onwards, the figures are:

2024/25: £9m

2025/26: £32.2m

2026/27: £9.7m year to date.

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**